FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

13 OCTOBER 1983

Lebanon

Dialogue, Political Contacts — The Preparatory Committee meeting will be held on 13 October and the Dialogue Committee will itself meet for the first time on 20 October, Beirut radio reported. Lebanese authorities have begun issuing official invitations to participants of the dialogue and have also held further contacts with Saudi Arabia over the venue, which has not yet been announced, the radio noted. Meanwhile, after talks with Lebanese officials in Beirut, Saudi negotiator Rafiq al-Hariri flew to Paris to meet with Raymond Iddih and Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt, according to Beirut and Voice of Lebanon radios. Earlier Junblatt met with French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson, AFP reported. In another development, Sweden announced that it has turned down a Lebanese request for Swedish military observers to help supervise the cease-fire, according to AFP. Leaders of the Christian Lebanese Front have called on the Lebanese Government to hold direct negotiations with Syria, Beirut radio reported. This view was expressed by former President Camille Sham'un and Phalange Party leader Pierre al-Jumayyil, who said that while national dialogue is necessary it is not sufficient. Syria is responsible for "all the wars Lebanon has experienced," the Phalangist leader contended, and the government should, therefore, negotiate with it.

Haddad Resignation Denial — Major Sa'd Haddad denied reports that he is resigning as commander of the "free Lebanon" militias, asserting in a statement reported by Voice of Hope radio that he is only taking sick leave and will continue to work. Haddad's associates disclosed that he will soon resume full activity, according to IDF radio. Meanwhile, the Israeli paper *Davar* reported that the Phalangists have decided to merge their forces in southern Lebanon with Haddad's militia.

Security Situation — Gunmen from the Islamic Unification Movement and the Communist Party engaged in fierce fighting in Tripoli despite a cease-fire announcement by the Northern Coordination Committee, Beirut radio reported. The death toll reached 47, comprising 37 from the Communist Party and 10 from its Muslim opponents, the radio said. The clashes became fierce when the Communists attempted to retake positions captured by the Unification Movement, which tried and executed 10 Communists, according to the Voice of Lebanon. The fighting subsequently subsided although public services in the city remained "paralyzed," Beirut radio reported. Elsewhere, six Lebanese soldiers were wounded when the Ash-Shuf cease-fire was violated near Suq al-Gharb, a military spokesman announced in a statement reported by Beirut radio. The clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio reported renewed Phalangist-PSP clashes in the Al-Kharrub area while Radio Monte Carlo cited Beirut press reports on an exchange of fire between Syrian and Israeli forces in the Al-Biqa'.

PLO Affairs

An Algiers Voice of Palestine radio report on the recent dissident attack on Fatah offices in Damascus admitted that the attackers succeeded in occupying the Fatah mobilization and organization headquarters. The radio spoke of "anger and outrage" among Palestinians in the nearby Al-Yarmuk camp over the attacks. In Jidda, Saudi King Fahd received Khalid al-Hasan, political adviser to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, SPA noted.

Syria

Al-Asad Interview — Syrian forces in Lebanon are not a "foreign army" like the IDF since Syrians and Lebanese are one people, President Hafiz al-Asad stated in a Swiss television interview carried by SANA. Nevertheless, Syria would have acceded to a Lebanese request to withdraw its forces before the Israeli invasion and will respond to a similar request after the Israelis withdraw, Al-Asad affirmed. Regarding Syrian-Soviet relations, Al-Asad said Syria does not expect to be obliged to ask for "direct military support" from the USSR in the event of an Israeli attack andadded that the two countries are in "continuous contact."

Israel

Syrian SS-21's — The SS-21's received by Syria increase its capability to hit Israeli civilian targets although the Syrians already have missiles with a similar range, the head of IDF intelligence disclosed in remarks reported by Jerusalem radio. He said Israel is examining the issue "very carefully."

Finance Minister's Trip — Finance Minister Yoram Aridor canceled his trip to Washington because of the domestic economic crisis, Jerusalem radio reported. The Cabinet decided 10 October to devalue the shekel by 23 percent and to raise basic food prices by as much as 50 percent.

Saudi-FRG Military Cooperation

Referring to a recent military cooperation agreement signed with Saudi Arabia under which the FRG will supply arms for Saudi defense purposes, FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl denied that the arms will threaten Israel or will be passed on to third countries, according to Hamburg television and DPA. Earlier the Israeli ambassador to the FRG claimed that German and U.S. weapons which had been supplied to Saudi Arabia had been found in Lebanon.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi insisted in remarks broadcast by Tehran radio that Iran will implement its plans to

block the Strait of Hormuz if Iranian security in the Gulf is threatened. Meanwhile, the Supreme Defense Council discussed a military force for the Strait of Hormuz in case of an emergency in the area, the clandestine Radio Iran claimed. On the military front, the Iraqi Navy sank two Iranian ships including one warship, according to an Iraqi communique broadcast by Baghdad radio. An Iranian communique broadcast by Tehran radio did not mention the incidents.

Libya

After permitting 37 French citizens detained at Tripoli airport to leave the country, the regime of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi is asking the French Government to "do what it can" to free a suspected Libyan terrorist on trial in France, Paris radio reported. A Libyan Embassy communique cited by the radio claimed that the airport authorities simply wanted to verify identification papers and were not holding the citizens "hostage." Meanwhile, Libyan Foreign Liaison Secretary 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi met French External Relations Minister Cheysson in Paris. Referring to the suspected terrorist, Al-'Ubaydi declared in arrival remarks reported by the radio that Libya is "fed up with the behavior of certain countries toward Libyan nationals." Meanwhile, Libyan peace proposals to resolve the Chadian conflict brought a lukewarm response from Nigerian President Shehu Shagari after a visit by Al-'Ubaydi, AFP noted. Nigeria had made the same proposals earlier to the OAU, AFP said.

Afghanistan

The DRA Foreign Ministry lodged a "harsh protest" with the Iranian charge d'affaires in Kabul over recent violations of DRA airspace by Iranian helicopters providing air cover for Afghan rebel bands, Kabul radio reported.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 199 *13 October 1983*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Syrian, Iraqi Presidents To Hold Summit *[Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' 13 Oct]* ..... A 1
Fatah Reconciliation, Syrian-PLO Summit Proposed *[Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' 13 Oct]* ..... A 1
Kuwait Al-QABAS on Rif'at al-Asad Message to 'Arafat *[11 Oct]* ..... A 1
'Arafat Sees Former Lebanese Prime Minister Karami *[North Lebanon VOP]* ..... A 2
ANSA: 'Arafat Determined To Stay PLO Chief ..... A 2
PLO Spokesman Refutes Damascus Meetings Reports *[San'a' VOP]* ..... A 2
Algiers VOP on Attack on Damascus PLO Office ..... A 2
KUNA Interviews PFLP's Habash, DFLP's Hawatimah ..... A 3
Message From Palestinians in Jordan Camps to Mediators *[Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B 13 Oct]* ..... A 4
Nimr Salih: Palestinians in Ash-Shuf Won't Withdraw *[Beirut]* ..... A 4
Joint Forces Operation in Sidon Injures Israelis *[Baghdad VOP]* ..... A 4
ICO's Chatti at UN on Mideast, South Asia *[KUNA]* ..... A 5
Arabs States Debate Israeli 'Piracy' in Space *[Riyadh]* ..... A 5

OPEC AFFAIRS

Kuwaiti Oil Minister on Oil-Market Problems *[KUNA]* ..... B 1

ARABIAN PENINSULA

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC Interior Ministers Conference Postponed ..... C 1
GCC Finance Ministers End Meeting 12 October ..... C 1

BAHRAIN

Foreign Minister Addresses UN General Assembly *[GULF DAILY NEWS 8 Oct]* 1
FRG Official Meets With Industry Minister ..... C 1
Minister Comments on GCC Trade Talks *[GULF DAILY NEWS 12 Oct]* ..... C 1

QATAR

Amir Receives Mauritanian President's Message ..... C 2

SAUDI ARABIA

DPA Cites Spokesman on Kohl's Talks in Jidda ..... C 2
DPA: Saudi Arms Experts To Visit FRG ..... C 2
Military Cooperation Plan Concluded *[Hamburg ARD]* ..... C 2
Numayri Arrives in Jidda; Meets Fahd *[SUNA]* ..... C 3
Leaves for Home ..... C 3
Bahrain Defense Force Commander Arrives ..... C 3
Attends Ceremony ..... C 3
King Receives Palestinians at Royal Palace ..... C 3
Crown Prince on Major Mideast Issues ..... C 3
Crown Prince on Peace Effort, Gulf War ..... C 5
King Orders $12 Million Aid for Lebanon Victims ..... C 5
AL-MADINAH Calls for Support to PLO *[8 Oct]* ..... C 5
Commentary Examines Israeli Leadership Change ..... C 6

UAE

AL-ITTIHAD Views GCC Joint Military Exercises ..... C 6

PDRY

YSP Chairman Cables Kim Il-song on Anniversary ..... C 6
Delegations Arrive for Anniversary Celebrations ..... C 7
Ethiopian Leader ..... C 7
Soviet Delegation ..... C 7
YAR Delegation ..... C 7

YAR

President Discusses Unity With PDRY ..... C 7
DFLP Member Arrives 7 October for Talks ..... C 7
Meeting With President ..... C 7

EGYPT

Abu Ghazalah on U.S. Talks, Other Issues *[AL-AKHBAR 10 Oct]* ..... D 1
Cabinet Statement on Integration With Sudan ..... D 2
Further on Cabinet Meeting ..... D 3
Mubarak Congratulates Numayri on National Day ..... D 3
Foreign Minister Meets Iraqi Envoy on Relations ..... D 3

IRAQ

Saddam Denies Delivery of Super Etendards *[AFP]* ..... E 1
Communique 1,245 Reports Two Iranian Vessels Hit ..... E 1
ATH-THAWRAH on Expected Iranian Offensive ..... E 1
Oil Minister Opposes Special OPEC Conference ..... E 1
Ramadan Receives Romanian Official 12 Oct ..... E 2
Romanian Official Leaves ..... E 2

JORDAN

Bomb Hurled at Public Security Barracks in Amman ..... F 1
JORDAN TIMES Urges Action on Fatah Crisis *[10 Oct]* ..... F 1
Egyptian Papers Distribution in Jordan Approved *[AR-RA'Y 12 Oct]* ..... F 1

LEBANON

Amal Movement Absence Cancels Security Meeting ..... G 1
Dialogue Committee Members Receive Invitations ..... G 1
Preparatory Committee Members Named ..... G 1
Junblatt, Others Name Representatives ..... G 1
Salim Representative Designated Chairman ..... G 1
Representatives Arrive ..... G 1
Preparatory Committee Begins Meeting ..... G 2
Saudi King Donates Aid to Displaced Persons ..... G 2
Al-Hariri Departs 12 Oct ..... G 2
Al-Wazzan Condemns Idea of Shi'ite Army ..... G 2
Salim Contacts Saudi Counterpart on Dialogue ..... G 2
Salim Briefs Cabinet on Current Developments ..... G 3
Sham'un, Pierre al-Jumayyil Urge Syrian Talks ..... G 3
Army Chief of Staff Discloses Whereabouts *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 3
Sulayman Franjiyah Opposes Press Censorship ..... G 3
Major Sa'd Haddad Address on His Health, Plans ..... G 4
Resignation Reports Denied ..... G 5

Haddad's Metulla News Conference ..... G 5
47 Killed in Tripoli Clashes 12 October ..... G 5
VOL Alleges Differences Between Syria, Allies ..... G 5
Meeting Held With French on Army Equipment Needs ..... G 6

SYRIA

Fire Exchanged With Israeli Forces in Al-Biqa' *[Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... H 1
Al-Asad Grants Interview to Swiss Television ..... H 1
Fatah, Syrian Officials Speak at Damascus Rally ..... H 2
As-Sa'iqah Spokesman Assails 'Arafat Statements ..... H 3
U.S. 'Uproar' Rejected; Role in Lebanon Affirmed ..... H 4
U.S.'Psychological Warfare' Denounced ..... H 5
Palestine Broadcast on Fatah Rightists' Plans ..... H 6
Reagan Statement on Lebanon Criticized ..... H 6
AL-BA'TH Says U.S. Ready To Use RDF in Gulf ..... H 7
Al-Asad Receives Algerian Party Official ..... H 7
Official Makes Statement, Departs ..... H 7
UAE Officials Conclude Visit, Depart 12 Oct ..... H 7
Foreign Minister Returns From UN Meetings ..... H 7

ISRAEL

Aridor Cancels U.S. Trip Due to Economy ..... I 1
'Minor Changes' Planned in Premier's Office *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 12 Oct]* ..... I 1
Shamir Brings in Adviser *[THE JERUSALEM POST 13 Oct]* ..... I 1
Weizman, Arens Discuss Political, Security Issues ..... I 1
Proposal To Link Dollar to Economy Revealed ..... I 1
Histadrut Opposes Cost-of-Living Reduction ..... I 2
Labor Party Scorns New Economic Plan ..... I 2
Peace Now Movement Reacts to New Government ..... I 2
MK Druckman Gains One-Man Faction Status ..... I 2
Haddad Holds Meeting With Chief of Staff Levi ..... I 2
Phalange Reportedly To Join Haddad Forces *[DAVAR 12 Oct]* ..... I 2
Intelligence Chief Comments On New Syrian Missiles ..... I 2
Knesset Member On Druze, Shi'ites in Haddad's Militia ..... I 3
Defense Establishment Helping S. Lebanese Shi'ites *[YOMAN HASHAVU'A 13 Oct]* ..... I 3
U.S. Funding of Jordanian Force Reported ..... I 3

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Bendjedid, Others See Off UAE President ..... Q 1
Legal Accord Signed ..... Q 1
Prime Minister Mauroy Grants Press Conference ..... Q 1
Algeria, PRC Sign Cultural Agreement in Beijing ..... Q 2
Nicaraguan Delegation Arrives in Algiers *[Havana]* ..... Q 2
Masaadia Returns From Talks in Damascus ..... Q 2

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Mauritanian President ..... Q 2
Bureau on French Citizens' 'Delayed' Departure *[KUNA]* ..... Q 2

MAURITANIA

Haydala Departs for Visit to Libya 11 Oct ..... Q 2
PLO Representative Brings Arafat Letter ..... Q 3

SUDAN

President Numayri Returns From Saudi Arabia ..... Q 3
People's Assembly Statement on Republic Day ..... Q 3

TUNISIA

Libya's Al-Humaydi Welcomed to Tunis Celebration *[JANA]* ..... Q 3
Meets Prime Minister, Others ..... Q 3

EAST AFRICA

KENYA

Former Vice President Freed From House Arrest ..... R 1

SOMALIA

President Interviewed on Horn, Mideast Issues *[KUNA]* ..... R 1

UGANDA

President Obote Commissions Satellite Station ..... R 2
Vice President Refutes Massacre Charge ..... R 2
Kampala Cites Al-Qadhdhafi Message to Obote ..... R 2

CENTRAL AFRICA

BURUNDI

Party Leader Corrects TASS Report on Interview ..... S 1

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

AFP on Attempts To Relieve Budget Deficit ..... S 1

CHAD

Bardai Urges French Withdrawal, OAU Solution ..... S 2

WEST AFRICA

GHANA

Information Secretary Receives GDR Envoy ..... T 1

LIBERIA

Doe Issues 'Warning Against Socialism' ..... T 1
Doe Pledges To Consult With Elders ..... T 1

NIGERIA

Shagari Calls Libyan Plan 'Nothing New' ..... T 1
More on Peace Proposals *[Paris]* ..... T 2
Expansion of Warri, Kaduna Refineries Announced ..... T 2

UPPER VOLTA

11 Political Figures Under House Arrest ..... T 2

Cabinet Decides To Dissolve Republican Guard ..... T 3

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Greets GDR's Honecker on National Day *[East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 11 Oct]* ..... U 1
Receives Honecker Message ..... U 1
Hungarian Party Delegation Arrives on Visit ..... U 1
Ambassador in Paris Holds Press Conference ..... U 1
FAPLA Warns Western Journalists on Planned Trip ..... U 2

BOTSWANA

Statement Issued on Zimbabwe Border Incidents ..... U 2

LESOTHO

Jonathan Speaks on Opposition, Diplomatic Ties ..... U 2
Jonathan Congratulated by Cuban, Other Leaders ..... U 3

SOUTH AFRICA

Botha Says Lesotho Premier Interfering in Reforms *[SUNDAY TIMES 9 Oct]* ..... U 3
Buthelezi on Referendum *[Umtata]* ..... U 4
UDF National Secretariat Meets Despite Ban *[RAND DAILY MAIL 10 Oct]* ..... U 4
ANC's Tambo Blames Reagan for RSA Pressure *[APS]* ..... U 4

SWAZILAND

Sozisa, Bhekimpi Say Situation Under Control ..... U 5
Parliament Summoned To Assemble 19 October ..... U 5

ZAMBIA

Hungarian Party Delegation Visits Country ..... U 5
Meets Party Leader ..... U 5

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe on Ties With U.S., UN Vote on KAL Plane *[THE HERALD 29 Sep]* ..... U 5
Acting Foreign Minister Hails GDR Friendship ..... U 6
'Stern Action' Against Corruption Promised ..... U 6

Syrian, Iraqi Presidents To Hold Summit

JN130750 Amman Akhbar Al-Usbu' in Arabic 13 Oct 83 pp 1, 28

[Text] The visits His Highness [UAE President] Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan paid to Baghdad, Damascus, and Algiers have achieved tangible results toward resolving the Iraqi - Syrian dispute. Presidents Saddam Husayn and Hafiz al-Asad have agreed in principle to hold a summit between them either in Algiers or Abu Dhabi in the presence of Shaykh Zayid and Chadli Bendjedid before the convocation of the next Arab summit in Riyadh.

Gulf diplomatic sources said that a UAE delegation will leave shortly for Baghdad to brief President Saddam Husayn on the results of Shaykh Zayid's talks in Damascus. These sources added that Shaykh Zayid's tour is part of the Gulf efforts to resolve Arab differences and achieve reconciliations before the Arab summit is held. They added that the talks also dealt with the Iraqi-Iranian war and Syria's attitude toward it, Syrian-Palestinian relations, and ways to clear the air and unify Arab energies.

Regarding the Gulf war, the sources said that Shaykh Zayid asked President al-Asad to exert his personal efforts to make the Iranian leadership soften its stand and embark on negotiations. President al-Asad promised to exert efforts in order to end the war.

Fatah Reconciliation, Syrian-PLO Summit Proposed

JN130849 Amman Akhbar Al-Usbu' in Arabic 13 Oct 83 pp 1, 28

[Text] Damascus reports say that as a result of the efforts exerted by His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, and Chadli Bendjedid a reconciliatory conference will be held by the Palestinian leaderships within the Fatah movement. This conference will be followed by an expanded meeting of the PLO leadership to draw up a new strategy for the Palestinian revolution and lay down the bases for resolving the Syrian- Palestinian differences.

Saudi diplomatic sources said in Damascus that the Palestinian leadership's Damascus meeting, which was attended by 'Arafat's representative, achieved good results that will be put into practice within a few days. These results include holding a meeting for the Fatah Central Committee leadership to be attended by Abu Salih [Nimr Salih] and to be followed by an emergency Fatah meeting to achieve reconciliation.

Regarding Palestinian-Syrian relations, the sources said that the UAE president's efforts in Damascus have made great progress toward resolving the two sides' differences and that a high-ranking Saudi figure will leave shortly for Damascus to complete talks on this subject. The Saudi official's talks in Damascus will concentrate on the possibility of holding a Syrian-Palestinian summit to be attended by the Saudi monarch, Presidents al-Asad and Bendjedid, and Yasir 'Arafat.

The sources said that this summit will come after a visit to Damascus by 'Arafat at the invitation of the Syrian president. 'Arafat had earlier emphasized that the manifestations of tension in the Fatah movement began to recede after he had received a message from Rif'at al-Asad, the Syrian president's brother.

Kuwait Al-QABAS on Rif'at al-Asad Message to 'Arafat

GF121837 Kuwait Al-Qabas in Arabic 11 Oct 83 p 1

['Amid ash-Shanti Dispatch]

[Text] Palestinian sources have told *Al-Qabas* that the message which was sent by Commander of the Defense CompaniesRif'at al-Asad to Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], which was conveyed by a special envoy, included a request from Al-Asad for a time limit of 72 hours for approving Syrian measures designed to quell the situation in order to try to start a dialogue with the PLO. The message also included a request to end the media campaigns against Syria, particularly those launched by Abu 'Ammar and Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf].

These sources pointed out that Abu 'Ammar issued an order for the immediate end to the media campaign against Syria in order to grant the Syrian leadership the time it asked for. The sources added that Abu 'Ammar stressed to Rif'at at-Asad's delegation that the PLO and Fatah do not want to fight any battle with any side but Israel, the first enemy, and that they insist on firm and distinguished relations in addition to cpmplete cooperation with the Syrians based on agreements that define relations and emphasize the need to avert interference in each other's affairs.

These sources also indicated that the attack which was launched early yesterday by a group of dissidents against Tripoli was an attempt to spoil the agreement reached between Abu 'Ammar and Rif'at al-Asad. However, this did not affect the agreement.

The sources noted that the Palestinian leadership is ready to hold an immediate meeting with the Syrian leadership and that Abu 'Ammar is fully ready to go to Damascus to meet with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. The issue of the dissidents will be left for the Fatah Central Committee, through the Fatah conference which will adopt necessary measures, such as expulsion, trials, and election of a new leadership or election of a Fatah Central Committee. Following the Fatah conference, which is expected to be held this month or in early November, an invitation will be made for convening an emergency meeting for the PNC in Aden or in San'a' in order to elect a new PLO leadership under Abu 'Ammar's chairmanship.

A senior source stressed that some of the officials from the current Executive Committee will disappear. The sources also indicated that Rif'at al-Asad succeeded in brushing aside the views which called for the establishment of a new Fatah, and particularly a PLO leadership, following the collapse of these prospects.

The sources noted that the occupation of the Fatah offices, the popular Palestinian grudge against the dissident leaders — which made two of the senior dissident leaders flee after attempting to deliver speeches at the Al-Yarmuk camp — and the Palestinian

people's stance toward their genuine representatives made Syria reconsider all the matters.

'Arafat Sees Former Lebanese Prime Minister Karami

NC122112 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1915 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] this afternoon visited the Samid craft center in the Al-Baddawi camp. The brother commander in chief had lunch with the center's female and make workers. He was briefed by the center's officials and workers on the progress of their work and gave them his directives.

Brother Abu 'Ammar had met yesterday with former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami and discussed with him the latest developments in the Lebanese arena. In this meeting, Brother Abu 'Ammar reviewed the dangers emanating from the blockade imposed by Syrian forces on Tripoli and the Palestinian camps, and the Palestinian revolution's efforts to avert a confrontation in the north.

Former Prime Minister Karami stressed that the efforts he and other influential figures are exerting might lessen the intensity of confrontation by eliminating the threat of armed collision between the Syrian and Palestinian revolution forces.

ANSA: 'Arafat Determined To Stay PLO Chief

AU121538 Rome ANSA in English 1525 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] (ANSA) Rome, October 12 — PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat reiterated his determination to stay put at the helm of the Palestinian organization regardless of attempts by rival guerrilla chiefs to oust him in an interview appearing today in the Italian "*Il Giornale*" daily.

His main argument for keeping the post is that he was elected by the Palestinian people, not by the organization's executive echelons which are now challenging his leadership.

"Family quarrels are nothing new", he told the Italian interviewer, "just as there is nothing new in the fact that there are people who want to divide us".

"I could list the defectors, if you like.... Abu Nidal, Al-Budayri, Ahmad Jibril and other", 'Arafat said, adding that "every so often some Arab country seeks to manipulate them".

"But I was elected by the people, not by the officers," he stressed, "and I will stand by to defend my people, I will remain loyal to them".

'Arafat was asked to explain what at the root of his dispute with the Syrians, which have him virtually surrounded at his outpost near Tripoli, in northern Lebanon.

"Did you hear that cannon fire?" 'Arafat answered the question by bringing the interviewer's attention to the blasts heard in the distance. "That's Syrian fire, and that is where the dispute lies".

Slightly irritated, 'Arafat asked the "*Il Giornale*" reporter why he was the only one asked that question. "You should put the same question to Abu Musa," the head of the dissident movement in the PLO who, according to 'Arafat, "is having a hard time himself getting along with his Syrian friends".

'Arafat expounded on the dramatic plight he and his followers are in when asked the reason why he was unable to meet with King Husayn of Jordan: "I'm blocked in here by the threat of Americans, of Israels and of 'those others'", he said, referring again to the Syrian troops surround his camp.

"We are surrounded, even the sea is blockaded by the Israelis. Let's hope the situation improves, at least with the Syrians", he added, saying that he was still in contact with Damascus authorities.

The PLO leader stressed, when asked about his relationship with Lebanon, that the Palestinians have kept the promises they made to Beirut authorities. "Let's see if they'll do the same".

'Arafat said that the morale of his men is high and added that his political aims have remained unchanged, the same ones presented, in seven points, to the United Nations in Geneva and approved by 179 delegations.

PLO Spokesman Refutes Damascus Meetings Reports

GF121744 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] An official spokesman of the PLO political Department has noted that the meetings of some of the Palestinian leaders within the legitimate institutions will continue to be based on the preservation of the independent decision and the independent political move.

Commenting yesterday in Tunis on reports disseminated by news agencies and foreign radios on the meetings that are currently being held in Damascus, the spokesman noted that there is nothing novel or strange with regard to the convening of a meeting by the Palestinian leaders, who often meet wherever they are staying to discuss the serious developments in the Palestinian arena. The spokesman pointed out that the goal of these meetings is regarded as a continuation of previous meetings which discussed the situation as a whole in the Palestinian arena.

Algiers VOP on Attack on Damascus PLO Office

LD130039 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] In Damascus armed groups belonging to the dissidents with the support of the Syrian intelligence services and the special units attacked the headquarters of the Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces in the Syrian capital — the office 23. At the same time other groups were attacking the headquarters of the Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief — the Nabulus Committee office, which takes care of the affairs of the occupied

homeland, also the headquarters of the mobilization and organization of the Fatah movement which is run by Brother Abu Mahir [Muhammad Ratib Ghunaym], member of the Central Committee of the Fatah movement.

Reports from the Syrian capital mention that the special guard of the office of the brother commander, Abu 'Ammar, opposed the attackers, who used machineguns, and as a result one of the strugglers was martyred and three others injured.

The armed groups and Syrian intelligence patrols are still besieging the office of the brother commander, Abu 'Ammar,in Damascus.

The attackers managed to occupy the mobilization and organization office and they tampered with its contents and openly smashed the pictures of Brother Abu 'Ammar. One of the guards of the office was martyred during this aggressive operation.

A state of anger and outrage dominates the circles of Palestinian citizens in the camps of Al-Yarmuk outside Damascus as a result of the attacks on the PLO and particularly the office of the brother commander, Abu 'Ammar.

Reports say that the vehicles of the intelligence service were cruising the streets of the camp to suppress by force any uprising or any actions of protest.

KUNA Interviews PFLP's Habash, DFLP's Hawatimah

LD121826 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1549 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Kuwait 12 Oct (KUNA) — A Palestinian delegation, including a number of the secretaries of Palestinian revolution units, including the secretary-general of the DFLP, Nayif Hawatimah; the secretary-general of the PFLP, Dr George Habash; member of the Political Bureau of the PFLP Bassam Abu Sharif; and 'Umar Qutaysh, stopped at Kuwait international airport on their way to Aden to attend the 20th anniversary of the 14 July Revolution of the fraternal PDRY.

Dr George Habash, in an exclusive interview to KUNA, spelled out the PFLP and DFLP position on the dispute within Fatah, and said that this position is based upon the following:

1. The attempt to stop the fighting and even to condemn it, solving all existing disputes between the different factions through democratic dialogue.

2. The necessity of adopting truely radical measures concerning democratic reform within Fatah.

3. The solution to this dispute must be based on the unity of fatah.

4. The necessity of making every effort to reduce the impact of this dispute on the unity and independence of the PLO.

He added: "These are the bases which we have laid down since the beginning of the dispute and by means of which we have tried to protect the organization from the dispute's impact."

The secretary-general of the PFLP revealed that the PFLP and the DFLP will, within the next few days, present a unified position which will draw on the joint ideas for solving the current crisis.

George Habash explained this position and said that it is based on the unity of the PLO and on the rule of democratic reform and also on the idea that the organization not be controlled by the creation of confusion or divisions within it.

He said: "This position will be included in a memorandum which will scientifically explain all the factors surrounding the dispute and which will draw up the political and administrative programs necessary to get out of this crisis."

He explained: "This joint memorandum will be submitted to all the units of the Palestinian resistance and the Palestinian masses; also to the units of the Arab liberation movement and the patriotic Arab regimes which support the Palestinian revolution. This is in order to mold Palestinian and Arab public opinion to push for a solution on these bases."

On the effectiveness of the PFLP's mediation between Syria and Fatah, Habash said: "As far as we are concerned, the issue is not one of mediation, but it illustrates a point of view concerning the operation of democratic reform within the PLO — a serious struggle within the legitimate framework of the organization — and the need for everybody to responsibly combat the dangerous situation which the revolution is now experiencing and to deal with it on the bases which we suggest."

He added: "We consider these bases as necessary for starting effective and serious dialogue on the Palestinian arena and within the circles of the Palestinian masses as well as within the Arab and international circles which are concerned about preserving the unity and independence of the PLO as the way to fulfill the aims of the Palestinian Arab people."

Furthermore, DFLP secretary-general Nayif Hawatimah explained in an interview with KUNA that "all the Arab mediation efforts up until now to close the rift between Fatah and Syria have faced many minefields and obstacles."

He added: "We think that any notion that there are insoluble contradictions between Syria and any unit of the Palestinian revolution is completely wrong."

Hawatimah said that the PLO has its role in the battle and Syria has its role in the patriotic battle. The two roles in combating the Zionist enemy complement each other without clashes or disputes.

He said: "Any disputes between the brothers in arms, whether Syrians, Palestinians or Lebanese patriots, can be solved."

The DFLP secretary general appealed to all honorable Arab forces to continue their mission in conjunction with the Palestinian efforts before the events become an earthquake which will engulf everybody.

Hawatimah pointed out that PLO unity and its independent national decision constitute "the greatest gain" made by the revolution throughout its 18 years of bloody armed struggle. "It is this unity that gave our people their national identity and their Palestinian political identity within the general pan-Arab framework."

"This unity," Hawatimah said, "is now threatened. This constitutes the major danger the Palestinian people feel at present." He added that the shedding of Palestinian blood and fighting between Palestinians and the breaking down of the ranks of the Palestine revolution and the PLO are all dangers undermining the PLO's unity.

In the light of these major dangers, he said, we have defined our position and called firmly for solving the internal conflicts through a fraternal democratic dialogue and through resort to the legitimate PLO institutions and the PLO's political program. Hawatimah explained: "All that has been achieved by the Palestinian people is now being buffeted. He said that protecting the PLO means the developing these gains, and the Syrian-Fatah conflict harms Syria, the PLO and the nationalist Lebanese forces. He added we called for a halt to all forms of political and propaganda fighting between Fatah and Syria on the basis of the Algiers resolutions which confirm the firm strategic alliance among the PLO, Syria, and the Lebanese nationalist forces, considering that they are all in the front line facing the enemy. He explained that resolutions were taken during the session of the Central Council on the first of August to the effect that Fatah or any PLO group should refrain from a political or propaganda war and should open the way to restoring Fatah-Syrian relations and Palestinian-Syrian relations to normality.

He said that events, however, led to a new deterioration and we are now making great efforts with the forces of good — Arab and friendly forces — to put an end to this deterioration which could lead to wide spread sefl-destruction. Hawatimah called for the unity of all Syrian, Palestinian and nationalist Lebanese rifles against the Israeli enemy which occupies Arab land. He said "What is happening now in Fatah is closer to a farce than a tragedy." Hawatimah asked: Why all this bloodshed among the brothers in arms at a time when we are at a stage of national liberation which requires the unity of all forces with all their ideological, political, and social currents, against our common enemy: Israel and world Zionism.

He added: In this regard, there is a solution to the internal differences in Fatah on the basis of the "common denominator" which the legitimate institutions of the organization determine. He said and if this is impossible the matter can be solved through arbitration by the PLO institutions. This is, of course, what we are struggling for within the framework of the joint leadership of the democratic and popular front and our people and the "network" of Arab and friendly international circles. Hawatimah called for an honest and concentrated Arab effort parallel to the Palestinian effort in order to put an end to this "farcial tragedy" and to solve the current crisis, a matter which secures the unity of the PLO and also that of Fatah on the basis of respecting [word indistinct] the legitimate institutions of the organization. Hawatimah ended his statement saying: "If this is not to be then we are all losers and the major winner is our Zionist enemy."

Message From Palestinians in Jordan Camps to Mediators

JN130838 Amman Sawt Ash-Sha'b in Arabic 13 Oct 83 p 1

[Text] Amman — *Sawt Ash-Sha'b* — The representatives of the Palestinian refugee camps in Jordan have expressed reservations over the national Palestinian reconciliation committee meeting and the statement is issued yesterday.

In a message addressed to the reconciliation committee's chairman and members, the representatives of the refugee camps requested by anyone, with doubt because it takes place while Abu Salih [Nimr Salih] is stating that meetings on high levels are taking place in Damascus, and that contacts have been held with some members of the committee to attend these meetings.

The message of the refugee camps continues: The meetings of the reconciliation committee take place while the Fatah movement's offices in Damascus are being occupied, and while our heroes are falling as martyrs, by Arab hands, away from the contact line with the Zionist enemy.

The representatives of the refugee camps declared their reservation over the meeting, and announced that they largely question it and consider it a confirmation of the split and a prelude to the creation of weak replacements to the PLO linked to the Syria regime.

The message urges the reconciliation committee to exert sincere efforts and to abide by discussing what has been declared in the past; namely:

1. Not to disregard Syrian involvement in fabricating the Palestinian fighting, and that the committee's position on this issue must be fair and declared.

2. To completely adhere to the cease-fire.

3. To stop the propaganda campaigns and abide by democratic dialogue for resolving Palestinian differences.

Nimr Salih: Palestinians in Ash-Shuf Won't Withdraw

NC120937 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Nimr Salih, leader of the rebels against Fatah, has said that the Palestinians who fought in Ash-Shuf and 'Alayh will never withdraw because Lebanon, as he said, is a bridge to a war in which Israel will be defeated for the first time. Nimr Salih said the liberation of Palestine is impossible without the alliance of the Palestinian revolution with the Arab liberation movements led by Syria, Libya, and South Yemen.

Joint Forces Operation in Sidon Injures Israelis

JN121711 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1619 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Sidon — A group of the joint Palestinian-Lebanese nationalist forces detonated remote controlled charges in the main square of Sidon, the capital city of southern Lebanon, as a Zionist

military patrol was passing there. The explosion destroyed one of the patrol's vehicles, and wounded several of its passengers. A Zionist source admitted the operation but, as usual, did not give any details of the results. The invading forces immediately mopped up the city and arrested several Lebanese citizens for suspected connection with the operation.

ICO's Chatti at UN on Mideast, South Asia

LD121359 Kuwait KUNA in English 1010 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] United Nations, Oct 12 (KUNA) — Islamic Conference Secretary General Habib Chatti predicted Tuesday that American intervention in the Gulf war is certain if Iraq uses the French-made Super Etendard planes against Iran.

"If Iraq uses the French planes and bomb the wells, then Iran will cut off the Strait of Hormuz, and we can be sure of American physical intervention," Chatti told a private luncheon here.

Asked if any one country could pressure France into withholding shipment of the equipment, Chatti answered in the negative. "We can't tell the French not to sell it, nor can we ask Iraq not to buy it."

As for the peace initiatives of the Gulf countries, [words indistinct] by the Non-aligned Movement (and his) own efforts have failed. "All we can do is try to call for an end in the fighting," he said.

Chatti said he does not believe either side will give up the fight, as both countries have sufficient financial means to carry on for a long time.

"The Iranians have considerable oil with which to finance the war, and the Iraqis are financed by Arabs," he said.

Furthermore, Chatti said, "there is no shortage of dealers in arms, either. They even arrange credit terms like the department stores do," he said.

On Afghanistan, Chatti said the Soviet Union cannot withdraw without losing face, "and no super-power can afford to lose face. but once the Soviets leave, the communist system there would collapse.

"The Russians have lost a lot in Afghanistan," Chatti said. "Before their intervention (in 1979), the Afghan regime was much closer to the Soviets than it was to any Western government, but were the Russians to leave today they would leave no friends behind."

Discussing the problem of the Middle East, Chatti said each time progress is made it is accompanied by regress. "The more support we have internationally, the more we find Israeli settlements solidly entrenched."

Chatti also warned of the dangers of "people getting used to a situation." This, he said, was evident in U.S. policy which changed from first declaring the settlements as illegal to considering them as merely undesirable.

The Islamic Conference adopted a draft resolution today which would urge the General Assembly and the Security Council to adopt the Fes plan of 1982 and the Geneva declaration on Palestine adopted last month.

But Chatti said both documents face certain rejection in the Security Council where the United States is one of the five veto-wielding powers.

The key element of the Fes plan is granting all states in the region the right to live within recognised borders while the Geneva declaration calls for the right of the Palestinians to establish their own state in Palestine.

Turning to the information gap that he said exists between the U.S. public opinion and the world of Islam, Chatti deplored that the American mass media project Islam only in its opposition to Zionism.

"There is much more to Islam than opposition to Zionism," he said.

Chatti also spoke of a blackout of news from the Islamic world in the U.S. where he said Zionists have a strong influence on the press. Soraiya Qadir of "*South*" magazine, which sponsored the luncheon, pointed out she had invited representatives of the *New York Times* and *The Washington Post* to join the group but neither one appeared. "They just don't want to know," she said.

One of the major future efforts of the Islamic Conference is trying to overcome the information gap, Chatti said, and for this reason, the Islamic conference has engaged in an "information plan" to be submitted to the summit meeting of 41 heads of state on January 17 in Casablanca.

Arabs States Debate Israeli 'Piracy' in Space

LD081407 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 8 Oct 83

[Text] Contacts are currently being held among Arab states to discuss means of confronting Israeli piracy in outer space, after the postponement of the launching of an Arab satellite, set for the middle of next year, because of the Israeli enemy's decision to launch a similar satellite in the same orbit as the Arab satellite to jam the latter's communications. Among the means the Arab countries are studying to face this piracy are legal studies, including an indictment of this behavior by the enemy to be submitted to the concerned organization.

The forthcoming Arab summit conference is to discuss a comprehensive report on this subject submitted by the Arab League so as to adopt a positive decision on confronting Israeli piracy in outer space.

Kuwaiti Oil Minister on Oil-Market Problems
LD1114Z9 Kuwait KUNA in English 1111 GMT 11 Oct 83

[Text] Paris, Oct 11 (KUNA) — Oil Minister of the United Arab Emirates Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah has said the closure of the strategic Hormuz Straits will not be in anybody's interest.

In an interview to be published Wednesday in the Arab language weekly magazine, *Kul El-Arab*, Al-'Utaybah added the strait or any other international sea lanes should remain aloof from political disputes and must by no means be affected.

The minister was apparently referring to recent threats by Iran that it would block the Hormuz Straits if Iraq, its foe in the now three-year old war, used newly delivered sophisticated planes to hit Iranian naval targets.

The threats met grave concern in the United States and the West since as much as approximately eight million barrels of oil pass through the strait each day to the West.

The minister, whose country is member of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), said the Iran-Iraq war is a purely political dispute and as such OPEC is not entitled to seek a settlement of the war between two of its members, Iraq and Iran.

"OPEC does not intervene in political disputes (between its members) but will be prepared to help resolve any oil-related difference should it be approached," he said.

[Words indistinct] embroiled in issues outside the realm of its jurisdiction will be fatal to OPEC," he added.

Responding to a question, Al-'Utaybah ruled out that any big power would venture to seize Arab oil wells "if any country, be it Eastern or Western, tried to do so it would find nothing because we would burn out our oil," he further explained.

On the Soviet Union's interest in Arab oil, the minister stressed all countries of the Eastern bloc want to have a share of the Arab oil "and they would not settle before obtaining such a share."

Al-'Utaybah, meanwhile, supported the idea of regional oil groupings saying these would enhance OPEC's standing as well as the position of the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC).

Asked on the possibility that the Arabs use their oil as a strategic weapon, Al-'Utaybah played down the significance of such a move, saying an Arab oil embargo would fail to produce the desired effect since the glut in the international market would leave consumer countries unaffected.

A decision like that is governed by certain conditions at a given time, Al-'Utaybah went on, and the developments in the past ten years have jeopardized oil's strategic value. The Arab oil producing countries cut off oil supplies to the United States and Holland in reprisal for their support for Israel in the 1973 Arab-Israeli war.

Meanwhile, he cautioned Arab oil exporting countries against the perils of capitalizing on oil as the sole income source and stressed that OPEC countries as well as exporters of the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council should find ways to diversify their resources.

Al-'Utaybah, who heads an OPEC market monitoring committee, rejected the notion that Arab oil producers cut their output to a bottom that would only suffice to meet the requirements of their developments process.

"Such a move would be suicidal not only to oil exporters but to all the Arab countries," he explained. He regretted that oil price cuts and glut on the international market were detrimental to oil exporters' economies, "and as such our revenues were curtailed and so was the aid we used to grant to Arab and developing countries."

The minister told the Paris-based magazine the OPEC oil is suffering prejudice on the international market, with the industrialized world seeking major supplies from non-OPEC sources.

"The Arabs have also to know that their oil is being ranked in the bottom and that senior officials of the Western countries have openly called for putting an end to OPEC, and subsequently to the leverage of Arab oil on world economy," Al-'Utaybah warned.

The 13-member organization comprises six Arab countries producing about half of OPEC's total output. These are Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Algeria and Libya.

He said OPEC did all in its power to stabilize the international market including a relatively long freeze on prices, and noted that further cuts could be effected if need be.

Last March OPEC agreed to freeze its crude prices until 1985, but the minister indicated if stable prices failed to help oil, especially that of Arab producers, regain its strategic importance "we will not hesistate to introduce undercuts."

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GULF AFFAIRS

GCC Interior Ministers Conference Postponed

GF110630 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1155 GMT 11 Oct 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 11 Oct (WAKH) — It was reported here today that the GCC Interior Ministers Conference, scheduled to be held in Riyadh on 15 October, has been postponed until 20 November. The UAE Foreign Affairs Ministry has received a memorandum from the GCC Secretariat to this effect.

GCC Finance Ministers End Meeting 12 October

LD121408 Riyadh SPA in English 1242 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Riyadh, Oct 12, SPA — Finance ministers from the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) concluded their two-day meeting here today. The ministers began their final session this morning to complete discussions on some items placed on its agenda.

BAHRAIN

Foreign Minister Addresses UN General Assembly

GF080450 Manama Gulf Daily News in English 8 Oct 83 p 2

[Excerpts] Bahrain called on the United Nations General Assembly to adopt the Palestine conference declaration. It urged all states to work "in earnest" towards ending the Middle East conflict. "The core of the Arab-Israeli conflict is the question of the people of Palestine, whose solution involves the recognition of the rights of the Palestinian people to establish their state on their national soil under the leadership of the PLO," Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak al Khalifa told the General Assembly. Regarding the situation in Lebanon Shaykh Muhammad appealed to all states to end the Israeli occupation of Lebanese territories and help keep Lebanon a unified sovereign state. He welcomed the recent agreement leading to the ceasfire and the "positive role played by sister kingdom Saudi Arabia in this respect." On the Iran-Iraq conflict Shaykh Muhammad told the 158-member assembly of the visits to Tehran and Baghdad by the foreign ministers of Kuwait and the UAE in search for a solution.

"We appeal once again to the two warring parties to settle their differences by peaceful means and restore normal relations between them on the basis of mutual respect, good neighbourliness and non-intervention in their domestic affairs," he said.

Turning to the Afghanistan problem, he said that any solution to this question should be consistent with UN resolutions which call for the withdrawal of Soviet forces so that the Afghan people may determine their own future and establish the political and economic system of their preference. He said that with the appearance of the Non-aligned Movement and its principles of independence and freedom from foreign influence, the concept of co-operation in the relations between countries acquired a political meaning aimed at setting up a new international order based on co-operation equality and peace. He pointed out that the declaration of the fourth summit conference of non-aligned countries in New Delhi last March re-emphasised this aim. This was despite the different political economic and social systems of the member countries. He confirmed that co-operation in international relations has become a historical necessity in this century and not a theoretical demand as some people believe.

He said that it is wrong to say arms limitation concerns the two great powers and other top countries only.

The economic problems which the rich industrial countries discussed in the Williamsburg summit last May concern the developing countries as much as the industrialised world. He expressed his hope that world leaders participating in the general assembly's discussions would contribute in promoting the United Nations role as an international organisation. He expressed his belief that solidarity and regional co-operation would be a positive tool to enforce political stability and help international peace and security. He said that formation of the GCC was a creative step aiming at documenting economic, social, and political links between its members. He said the GCC's formation was a realistic answer for the political, social, and economic requirement of the area's people and would keep these countries away from the international polarisation. Shaykh Muhammad stressed that the GCC, in its short time, had realised much of the unified economic and cultural programmes which were put into action at the beginning of this year. The aim was to bring about economic integration and set up a unified economic policy towards other countries and regional economic groupings.

Shaykh Muhammad warned of the deteriorating situation in Afghanistan. Shaykh Muhammad reiterated Bahrain's support for the legitimate struggle carried out by the black majority against the racist regime in South Africa. He also affirmed the need of finding a peaceful solution for the Cyprus issue. Shaykh Muhammad hailed the efforts aimed at resolving the dispute between North and South Korea through unconditional negotiations and by the respect of Korean people in achieving peace and security in a united country.

FRG Official Meets With Industry Minister

GF121916 Manama Wakh in Arabic 1220 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Manama, 12 Oct (WAKH) — Bahraini Development and Industry Minister Yusuf Ahmad ash-Shirazi today received Juergen Moellemann, minister of state at the Bonn Foreign Ministry, who is currently visiting Manama. During the meeting the two sides reviewed bilateral relations, praticularly those dealing with industrial development and [word indistinct] between Bahrain and the FRG. [passage indistinct]

Minister Comments on GCC Trade Talks

GF121200 Manama Gulf Daily News in English 12 Oct 83 P 1

[Text] GCC trade ministers have agreed to develop the Saudi Arabian authority for standards and specifications into an agency for the whole region. They also established the agency's board of directors, which will meet early next year to set out the

authority's operational guidelines. This was announced by Habib Ahmad al-Qasim, commerce and agriculture minister, who said the Manama meeting [of GCC commerce and trade ministers] also decided to hold joint trade fairs of products manufactured in the six GCC member states, the first of which would be held in Kuwait in November. Further talks on boosting trade among the states would be held, he said.

QATAR

Amir Receives Mauritanian President's Message

GF081035 Manama Wakh in Arabic 0920 GMT 8 Oct 83

[Text] Doha, 8 Oct (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad al Thani, the amir of Qatar, has received a message from Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, the Mauritanian president, on bilateral relations. The message was conveyed by Sidna Aly Ould (Sagiri), the Mauritanian ambassador to Qatar, during his meeting with the Qatari amir today.

SAUDI ARABIA

DPA Cites Spokesman on Kohl's Talks in Jidda

LD101520 Hamburg DPA in German 1450 GMT 10 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Jidda, 10 Oct (DPA) — A compromise appears to be on the horizon concerning the contentious question of German arms supplies to Saudi Arabia. After several hours of talks between Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Saudi King Fahd and members of the Cabinet, government spokesman Peter Boenisch told the press in Jidda today that the acquisition of arms was one of the topics of discussions. However, referring to tomorrow's press conference, he refused to give details.

Concerning the overall assessment of the visit to Jidda, the government spokesman said he does not share the prophecy that Kohl will leave Saudi Arabia with relations worse than they were when he arrived. The contrary will be the case; "matters have gone differently."

Boenisch said King Fahd underlined the good state of German-Saudi relations and emphasized the desire for economic cooperation. His country has excellent experiences with German industrial firms.

During the discussion of international questions, the Middle East problem, and mutual cooperation there was agreement on many points about which Chancellor Kohl was pleased. The king again called for stronger European commitment in order to get the peace process in the Middle East going. The wish to recognize the PLO as sole representative of the Palestinian people was not aired, according to the government spokesman.

The king described his talk with the chancellor on Sunday evening after an official dinner as a "talk from heart to heart", according to Boenisch.

The two sides also underlined the need to cooperate still more closely in combating international terrorism.

DPA: Saudi Arms Experts To Visit FRG

LD110829 Hamburg DPA in German 0529 GMT 11 Oct 83

[Text] Jidda 11 Oct (DPA) — The governments in Bonn and Riyadh want to examine jointly possibilities for the delivery of German arms to Saudi Arabia. To this end, a Saudi group of experts is to go to the Federal Republic at the end of the year. This agreement emerges from a communique published at the end of the 2-day visit by Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl this morning in Jidda.

The agreement states that "armaments that are earmarked for defense... will be considered in so far as they correspond with Saudi requirements." It is not specified whether both sides see these criteria as applying to the Leopard-II tank.

Saudi Arabia has long wanted the delivery of this weapons system and has encountered opposition both in Israel and the Federal Republic.

The communique states that King Fahd of Saudi Arabia has been invited to visit the Federal Republic. Both sides also underline the urgent need for a solution of the Middle East conflict and support the restoration of Lebanon's sovereignty. It states that bilateral relations are excellent.

Military Cooperation Plan Concluded

DW121443 Hamburg ARD Television Network in German 1900 GMT 11 Oct 83

[Gerd Konzelmann report in "Tagesschau" program]

[Text] After Chancellor [Kohl] departed by air, the Government of Saudi Arabia indicated that it was highly satisfied with the results of the talks. Military cooperation between the FRG and Saudi Arabia was agreed on. This is not a formal pact, but this cooperation plan still meets the Saudi Arabian security interests.

A basic agreement was made. Exact plans are to be determined before the end of the year when a Saudi Arabian delegation visits Bonn. The Saudi Government thus believes that it has achieved more than it would have by concluding a contract on tank deliveries. The Saudi Arabian defense minister hopes that this cooperation will inherently strengthen the readiness of his army to defend against external threats.

Previously Saudi Arabia had cooperated militarily with the United States alone. People in Saudi Arabia consider it wise not to depend on the great power of the United States alone, but to also let a medium power — the Federal Republic — participate in preparing Saudi Arabia's defense concept. After all, no one can accuse the Federal Republic of pursuing a policy of interference.

Government spokesman Peter Boenisch has confirmed to me that such an agreement on military cooperation has never before been concluded or practiced outside of NATO. Both sides are aware that they are in absolutel new territory. However, he said there is one decisive limit to this cooperation — German soldiers will never be stationed in the Saudi Arabian desert, that is, in Saudi

Arabia itself. On the other hand, however, Saudi Arabian soldiers will be coming to the Federal Republic.

Numayri Arrives in Jidda; Meets Fahd

JN111902 Khartoum SUNA in English 1735 GMT 11 Oct 83

[Text] Jidda, 11 Oct (SUNA) — The President of the Republic Ja'far Muhammad Numayri holds a close-door meeting with the Saudi King Fahd immediately after his arrival here.

The close-door meeting was attended by the Presidency Minister Baha' ad-Din M. Idris and a number of the Saudi officials.

Another round of talks between the president and the Saudi monarch is expected later tonight. President Numayri arrived here today in a day-long visit to Saudi Arabia.

The Saudi Foreign Minister Amir Sa'ud Al-Faysal told SUNA that today's close-door meeting between the king and the president had been comprehensive and fruitful.

The talks tackled all the Arab issues putting into account the two countries' concern over unifying Arab ranks.

The two leaders also expressed grave concern for the [word indistinct] of the success of the Arab summit scheduled to be held in Riyadh later, the minister said.

The minister told SUNA that the point of views of the two leaders have been in complete identity over all issues they discussed. The two leaders asserted the necessity for the success of the forthcoming Arab summit for the faith of serving the Arab causes. [passage indistinct]

Leaves for Home

LD121821 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1415 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Medina, 12 Oct (SPA) — His excellency the president of Sudan, J'afar Muhammad Numayri, left here today for home after a visit to the Prophet's Mosque for prayers. He was seen off at the airport by the under secretary of the Emirate of Medina, S'ad ad-Din as-Sudayri; the region's military commander, Major General Humannad al-Kharbush; the director of police, General Mamad al-Arifi; the director of royal protocol in Medina, 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Yas; and a number of senior civil and military officials.

Bahrain Defense Force Commander Arrives

LD121801 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1425 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Dhahran 12 Oct (SPA) — His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al-Khalifah, heir apparent and commander of Bahrain's Defence Force, arrived here this afternoon. He was welcomed on arrival by His Royal Highness Amir Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general; His Highness 'Abd al-Muhsin ibn Jalawi, the governor of the eastern region; Turki al-'Utayshan, the deputy governor of the region ; Major General Sulayman ash-Shubayli, commander of the eastern region ; and a number of senior civil and military officials.

Attends Ceremony

LD122239 Riyadh SPA in English 1922 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Dhahran, Saudi Arabic, Oct. 12, SPA — Under the patronage of Second Deputy Premier and Defence and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan, the Institute of Technical Studies celebrated the graduation of its 36th and 37th sessions, here today. The graduation ceremony was attended by Bahraini Heir-apparent and Defence Minister Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa al-Khalifah. The institute's action commander Lt Colonel Muhammad (al-Beeshi) delivered a speech in which he underlined the institute's concern to "provide its students with the most advanced sciences and sophisticated technology." Most of technicians now working in Saudi Air Force bases are graduates of this institution established more than 26 years ago, he said. The institute has a capacity of more than 2,000 students and includes a number of nationals from the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council's member states, he added. The acting commander also noted that the institute was coping with great rapid progress witnessed by Saudi Air Force in particular and the armed forces in general.

King Receives Palestinians at Royal Palace

LD121543 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1350 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Jidda 12 Oct (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received today at the Royal Palace in Jidda Mr Khalid al-Hasan, Mr Yasir 'Arafat's political adviser; Mr Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abba] and Mr Rafiq an-Natshah, the PLO representative in the Kingdom. The meeting was attended by Information Minister 'Ali ash-Sha'ir.

Crown Prince on Major Mideast Issues

LD080355 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2240 GMT 7 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Jidda, 7 Oct (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard, in a statement to the newspaper *'Ukaz* to be published tomorrow said that the efforts of the Kingdom under the leadership of His Exalted Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz had not ceased and will not cease to make more efforts to restore purity to the Arab atmosphere. His highness talked about the situation in Lebanon and he said that the ceasefire is the natural gateway to concord between the Lebanese brothers. His highness said that the stability, prosperity, and welfare of Lebanon and restoring its Arab and international role are all linked with making citizenship and not factionalism a constitution for coexistence among its sons. Religion is for God and the homeland is for all.

His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz said: I am confident especially after the bitter experience endured by fraternal Lebanon that the Lebanese brothers know full well that their differences will become minor if measured in terms of Lebanon as a homeland and people.

His highness urged the Lebanese brothers to work to save their country. His highness then talked about the Palestinian issue and the painful stages through which it is passing currently. He said that the Palestinian brothers should know that besides being a Palestinian issue this is the chief Arab and Islamic concern in the area. I caution the Palestinian brothers not to interpret what I said to mean that Arab and Islamic states have a right to intervene in their purely domestic affairs. What I mean is that there should be strategic coordination between them and the Arabs. He apealed to the Palestinians and all their groupings, fronts, and factions to safeguard their organization, the PLO, to rise above personal ambitions, and to liberate themselves from subservience to any quarter or state.

His highness warned against destroying the PLO. He said that its downfall will lead inevitably to the effacement of the issue and the abolition of the Palestinian identity as a homeland and people. His highness welcomed any practical initiative to recover the legitimate Palestinian rights from whatever American or non-American quarter which ensures for the Palestinian brothers their legitimate human and legal rights.

About his recent visits to Tripoli, Damascus, Baghdad, and Amman, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz said: My visits to Tripoli, Damascus, Baghdad, and Amman were taken on the order of my lord his majesty the king and in accordance with his esteemed directives, and the visits undoubtedly come into the framework of the policy of Arab solidarity, a banner which the Kingdom has been raising for a long time because we believe that any policy but that of Arab solidarity is empty and useless. His highness explained in his answer to a question about the coming Riyadh summit that it represents an aspect of desired Arab solidarity. His highness emphasized that the activity of Saudi diplomacy at every level seeks conciliation between the Arab states not for the sake of convening the coming Riyadh summit but for the sake of implementing the strategies of Arab solidarity. The Riyadh summit or any summit conference is considered an aspect of the desired Arab solidarity.

His highness spoke about the Iraqi-Iranian war and he said: There is no dispute that the Iraqi-Iranian war is the most disastrous tragedy ever to befall the Islamic world, after the Palestine catastrophe and the tragedy of Afghanistan, because it is inhuman from the Islamic viewpoint and illogical in its objective, like a war of anger or reaction. It has no aim or purpose.

Such a war does not solve problems or decide an issue, nor does it bring the combatants moral gain or material profit; it does, however, bring all this to the enemies of Islam and those who trade in the blood of Muslims and who exploit the resources of the area. And here today we see how the enemies are making every effort to widen the circle of destruction in our area and feed the mill of this war with more human and economic losses. The Iranian-Iraqi war losses exceed 1 and 1/2 million dead and injured. As for material losses, these are now given in astronomical figures, not to mention the fact that most economic institutions and indeed all that man has built through his toil and sweat and his towns and villages which lie along the battlefields have been blasted by anger and utterly destroyed, and well over 3 million women, children, and old people have fled homes which became battlefields of struggle between brothers. His highness urged the officials in both fraternal countries to look into their consciences and to ponder the agonies of their citizens and the great losses suffered by their peoples and to ask themselves why their present war receives the blessings of both the Western and Eastern camps and becomes a field for fotruneseekers and opportunists.

His highness said: I am sure that if our brother officials in Iran and Iraq consider all this, analyze the reasons for it, and scrutinize the attitude of the two camps toward their war, then they would respond to the efforts of the Islamic world to restore peace and amity to their two countries. They will know for certain that pride and obstinacy always drive man to destroy himself. Let us be aware of the fact that men pass away but their deeds remain.

In his interview to the newspaper *'Ukaz*, his highness the crown prince explained that the confrontation of the Arab nation with Israel is not confined to wars and battles which Israel has waged against us. Wars are a practical confirmation of the continuation of the confrontation between us and Israel. His highness said that the exit of Menahem Begin or anyone else and the coming of Yitzaq Shamir or anyone else does not change the Israeli strategy which seeks to surround Israel with weak sectarian states of no significance. Therefore, we should be aware of the fact that Israel does not really want to have geographical frontiers; it still has not announced its borders as a state. The reason for this is that it intends to have political frontiers — that is, to be surrounded by feeble sectarian statelets so that it can be the stronger power in the Arab area. And my lord Fahd perceived the reality of Israeli strategy and this is why he worked day and night for the cease-fire in the Lebanon. And this is because Israel sees in fragmenting Lebanon, dividing it into sectarian statelets, as the opening through which it can fragment the entire area.

Answering a question about the way the Arabs can confront the Israeli challenge in the shadow of these terrible conditions, his highness said that ever since the time of the founder King 'Abd al-'Aziz, rest his soul, until the time of His Majesty King Fahd, may God give him long life, the Kingdom had been reiterating the frank and clear answer — namely, Arab and Islamic solidarity. The solidarity of the Arabs and the Muslims is the only means capable of curbing the defiance of Israel or anyone else. As for its strategy, it is based on taking the Arabs individually, one state at a time. Here I ought to point out that Israel in the past,in achieving the scattering of the Arab fold, has sought the aid of the various ideologies which tore up the unity and the rank of the Arabs and classified them into progressives and reactionaries, but those foreign ideologies failed and it was defeated in face of the blessed Islamic reawakening, so today Israel seeks factionalism as a replacement for the left wing doctrine and an ax to demolish the Arab and Islamic world.

About his highness' efforts last year to ease the intensity of the Syrian-Iraqi dispute and to bring the two leaderships together prior to restoring normal relations between the two fraternal countries, his highness said:

Our efforts continue. The Kingdom has managed, through the guidance of God Almighty, and the directive of His Majesty the wise Fahd, to realize some results which can only be described as

positive. Also, there was a rapprochment between the Syrian Arab Republic and the Hashimite Kingdom of Jordan. And about the strong family-like relationship which prevails in this homeland and rules its sons — rulers and citizens — for the sake of the stability and security of this homeland and its people, his highness said: We all know that the regime in the Kingdom does not base itself on ruler and governed but on citizen and official. Both are equal in responsibility.

On arms and modernization of the military and training power of the National Guard, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz said: I can say that the National Guard is keeping pace with every development in the field of arms and training, but it must have (?knowledge) of all the new things in the fields of learning and military culture. Therefore the National Guard expanded its construction of military schools and colleges. It also sent more students to foreign states on scholarships. The age of technology in which we live today has made learning the gateway to becoming a professional soldier, whether he is an officer, NCO, or private. (Acquiring?) military art calls not only for great ability in the use of (?weapons) but has made it a condition that he should acquire skill in the use of the weapons. Weapons are no longer a means for fighting; they have become companions in the battle — a matter that requires the soldier to have thorough knowledge of his weapons in order to achieve a greater benefit from them. One must add that the weapons technology has introduced a basic amendment to the traditional concepts of strategy and tactics, and to the traditional principles of command, and this calls for narrowing the cultural gap between commander and subordinate for the sake of attaining the highest degree of military performance. Hence you see us in the National Guard place as a high priority the preparing of the man who believes in God. Culture is the essence of the professional soldier who believes in God, who protects his homeland, and who is loyal to his monarch.

Saudi Crown Prince on Peace Effort, Gulf War

GF080608 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 8 Oct 83

[Excerpts] In a statement published in today's issue of *'Ukaz*, His Highness 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister, and head of the National Guard, affirmed that the Kingdom's efforts under His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz have not stopped and will not stop to seek clarity of Arab atmosphere. He said that his majesty, may God save him, has proved in many things that the will can achieve anything in the end.

On the Iraqi-Iranian war, his highness said: There is concurrence that the Iraqi-Iranian war is the most tragic disaster befalling the Muslim world after the disaster in Palestine and the tragedy in Afghanistan. It is an inhumane war from the Islamic point of view and illogical because, like the war of emotionalism and anger, it does not have any objective. Such a war does not solve problems nor settle an issue nor achieve any moral or material gain for either of the two belligerant parties. Rather, it achieves all of this for the enemies of Islam and for those who are trading with Muslim blood and those who exploit the region's wealth. We always see that these enemies are making all efforts to widen the range of devastation in our region and to make the mill of this war consume more men and economic losses.

He urged officials in the two fraternal countries to return to their consciences and meditate on the sufferings and high losses being inflicted on their people and ask themselves why this war is being blessed by the Western and Eastern camps and why it is being used by exploiters and opportunists. He said: I am confident that our brother officials in Iran and Iraq, when they think of all this and of the two camps' stand on their war, will respond to the Muslim world's efforts to restore peace and amity between their countries and will understand very well that obstinacy and arrogance always push man to destroy himself. We should know that men pass away but their deeds remain.

On his efforts last year to reduce the tension in the Syrian-Iraqi dispute and to bring the two leaders together as an introduction to the normalization of relations between the two fraternal countries, his highness said: Our efforts still continue. The Kingdom, with God's help and at the instructions of his majesty the wise Fahd, has been able to achieve some results which can only be described as positive. Also, some contacts have been held between fraternal Syria and Jordan.

On new developments in armament and modernizing the National Guard's military and training capabilities, His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, said: I can say that the National Guard is keeping abreast of every advancement in the field of armament and training and most of all, with all new developments in military science and experiment. That is why the National Guard built more military colleges and schools and sent more scholarship students to foreign countries.

That is why we treat as one of our top priorities shaping men who believe in God, who have the cultural characteristics indispensable for professional soldiers, who believes in God, who are honest for their king, and who can be entrusted with their homeland.

King Orders $12 Million Aid for Lebanon Victims

GF101850 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Oct 83

[Text] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has issued a decree ordering the transfer of $12 million as urgent aid for providing food and blankets to the victims of the war in Lebanon.

AL-MADINAH Calls for Support to PLO

GF111850 Jidda Al-Madinah in Arabic 8 Oct 83 p 2

[Editorial: "The PLO and the Pledges Which Should Be Adhered To"]

[Excerpts] There is no need to say again that the threats, pressures, and conspiracies which the PLO is being subjected to are a continued series, the activity of which derives from a hatred of the major Arab and Islamic issue which is presented in the Palestinian issue, hatred to its solution, and a united Arab nation.

Thus, any interference in PLO affairs or any intention to destabilize it is a wicked intention to strike at the Arab nation, when it is in great need to unite its ranks and is a disgrace to its pledges and charters for supporting and protecting the Palestinian issue through supporting its organization which presents legitimacy and unity.

Any attempt to split the PLO is one of the greatest services which can be done to the Zionist enemy, because it is the first beneficiary, and is unable to thank those who carry out such attempts on his behalf and serve its interests and desires, for this service.

The news carries reports about the Palestinians being subjected to a surrender, provocation, or a threat which subjects them to another kind of Beirut surrender. The Arabs should make efforts to avoid it because it only serves the enemies.

Commentary Examines Israeli Leadership Change

LD112256 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 11 Oct 83

[Husayn al-'Askari commentary]

[Text] Yitzhaq Shamir has officially become prime minister after the Knesset passed a vote of confidence in his new Cabinet. It is known that the new Cabinet of the enemy headed by Shamir includes all the members of Begin's Cabinet. This reflects the continuation of the policy of the previous government without any change, while Yitzhaq Sahmir's is a more vital and able extension of Begin's policy.

Despite all the economic difficulties it has created, which constitutes the main suffering of the Jewish settler, its foreign aspect has enjoyed the support of the Israelis because it is a policy in which the Jewish settlers see a sincere expression of the Jewish spirit of hatred and blackmail especially at the level of dealing with the rights of the Palestinian people. The enemy leadership's refusal to deal with these rights will not be affected by the departure of Begin and the coming of Shamir or any enemy government, because the aggressive policy of Israel is based on a firm strategy and the leadership is responsible for its implementation. But this does not exclude the implementer having his own method of reaching the objective and Begin, who made Jerusalem the capital of Israel and the Golan part of the Zionist enemy, invaded Lebanon in the biggest aggressive operation against an independent country known in history and whose forces continue to occupy Lebanese territory.

From this premise, the new prime minister of the enemy must have his own interpretations to add new things to the list of his predecessor and this is what Shamir expressed before the Knesset when he confirmed his adherence to the continued building of settlements on the occupied Arab territories. He also hinted that he will reject any attempt to find a lasting peace unless the result of that attempt means Israel getting all it wants. Thus,there is no difference in strategy and, if there is one, it concerns the method of application. On this basis, the changing of the faces in the leadership in Israel does not interest the Arabs at all. The coming of Shamir and the going of Begin remains an operation which has no influence on the development of the conflict between the Arabs and Israel with the exception of one field only: The competition among the leadership of the enemy to invent new methods of deception and trickery as a means of waging further aggression against the Arab land and people.

UAE

AL-ITTIHAD Views GCC Joint Military Exercises

GF090830 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0620 GMT 9 Oct 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 9 Oct (WAM) — In its editorial today *Al-Ittihad discusses the GCC joint military exercises. The paper* expresses hope that these exercises will be the starting point for the creation of a unified GCC army that will bolster the existing cooperation among GCC countries in the political, economic, and other fields.

Al-Ittihad emphasizes the UAE's role in cooperating with outher GCC countries: The UAE was the venue of the first GCC summit conference. Likewise, the first GCC joint military exercises will be held in the UAE. Officers and men from Bahrain, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Oman, and Kuwait, together with their brothers from the UAE Armed Forces, will be taking part in the exercises. The UAE is an indivisible part of the Arab lands of the Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula and is part of the homeland of every soldier and officer taking part in the exercises, "for the land is one and the homeland is one and any threat to any person in these lands is a threat to all of us."

In conclusion, *Al-Ittihad* expresses hope that the exercises will be an effective factor in ensuring the success of the GCC march and continued progress toward protecting the Gulf's security and safeguarding the peace and stability of the GCC countries. Referring to the approach of the date of the fourth GCC summit conference in Doha, the paper says the conference will be yet another step in the GCC's triumphant march.

PDRY

YSP Chairman Cables Kim Il-song on Anniversary

GF091405 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 9 Oct 83

[Cable sent by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of YSP Central Committee, chairman of Presidium of Supreme People's Council, and chairman of Council of Ministers, to President Kim Il-song on 38th anniversary of Korean Workers Party]

[Text] I am pleased to send you, on behalf of the YSP Central Committee and the PDRY people and Government and in my own name, and through you to the KWP [Korean Workers Party] Central Committee and to the friendly Korean people and the DPRK Government, the sincerest wishes on the 38th anniversary of the establishment of the KWP.

The history of the struggle of the Korean people since the imperialist occupation of their land for the sake of independence and for peace and social progress has been tied to the name of the KWP as a [word indistinct] leader for the Korean people and

hoistering the flag of struggle against U.S. imperialism and its agents.

We in the PDRY highly appreciate your struggle to unify the Korean homeland peacefully and independently and support your proposals to set up the Korean confederation.

At the same time, we denounce the plots being hatched by imperialist circles and their agents in southern Korea, which pose a threat to the peace and security in the Korean peninsula.

We seize this opportunity to wish the friendly Korean people prosperity and progress, to wish you personally good health and happiness, and to wish the relations between our friendly countries more progress in the interest of the two friendly countries.

Delegations Arrive for Anniversary Celebrations

Ethiopian Leader

GF121649 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Brother Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council, chairman of the Commission for Organizing the Working People of Ethiopia, and the commander in chief of the Revolutionary Army in Socialist Ethiopia, arrived in Aden today.

He is leading a senior delegation to participate in the celebrations of the 20th anniversary of the revolution and the 5th anniversary for the establishment of the Yemeni Socialist Party.

Soviet Delegation

GF121412 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Excerpt] A Soviet Communist Party delegation arrived in Aden today to take part in the 20th anniversary celebrations of the glorious 14 October Revolution.

The delegation was led by Comrade Solomentsev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the party Control Committee.

YAR Delegation

GF121721 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, today received Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, vice president in the northern part of the homeland, and members of his accompanying delegation on the occasion of their arrival in Aden to participate in the celebrations of the 20th anniversary of the revolution and the 5th anniversary of the establishment of the party.

YAR

President Discusses Unity With PDRY

GF081800 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Oct 83

[Excerpt] The Qatari newspaper *Ar-Rayah* today published the text of the interview it held with Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces,and secretary general of the General People's Congress. The following is the text of the interview.

[Question] What are the steps taken to unite both sides of Yemen?

[Answer] We have, through cooperation with the leadership in the southern part of the homeland, accomplished many steps on the path of restoring the unity of Yemen—something that is considered a matter of life or death for our people on both sides. This council held its first session in San'a' from 15 to 20 August this year. This session accomplished much, the most important of which is the agreement that citizens using identity cards can travel between both sides without any obstacles. It also was agreed to facilitate the transit of commodities of Yemeni origin without obstacles or fees. Other accomplishments are represented in joint projects such as the geological survey in both sides and the formation of joint firms.

DFLP Member Arrives 7 October for Talks

GF071816 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Brother 'Abd al-Karim Hamad, alias Abu 'Adnan, member of the Political Bureau of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, arrived in San'a' today on a visit to the YAR. During his visit, Abu 'adnan will hold talks with officials on Palestinian developments. In a statement to SABA News Agency, Abu 'Adnan expressed pleasure at his visit. He said he will discuss with YAR officials, foremost among whom is President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, the latest developments in Lebanon and the situation of the Palestinian revolution in general. He praised the YAR's support for the Palestinian people's struggle to regain their legitimate rights.

Meeting With President

GF091327 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 9 Oct 83

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received in his office at the general headquarters today Brother 'Abd al-Karim Hamad, alias Abu 'Adnan, member of the Political Bureau of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, who briefed the brother commander on the latest developments on the Lebanese arena, particularly the Lebanese situation and the Palestinian cause. He conveyed to the brother leader the greetings of the Palestinian people and the leadership of the Palestinian rev-

olution on the 21st anniversary of the immortal 26 September revolution. He appreciated our country's stance as president, government, and people in supporting the steadfastness and struggle of the Palestinian people and lauded the achievements of the YAR in various peaceful fields under the leadership of President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. The meeting was attended by Brother 'Abd al-Hamid al-Hajji, assistant in the standing committee secretariat, and Hikmat Zayd, PLO representative in San'a'.

Abu Ghazalah on U.S. Talks, Other Issues
PM131006 Cairo Al-Akhbar in Arabic 10 Oct 83 pp 3-4

[Statement by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense and War Production Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah to Egyptian television on 8 October on the occasion of the 1973 October war anniversary]

[Excerpts] Marshal Abu Ghazalah said: Regardless of the very strong U.S.-Israeli relations, the Americans have interests in this region which make it necessary for them to draw closer to and seek the friendship of the Arabs. The difficult question facing the United States at present is how to maintain its interest in Israel as virtually an American state whose security is guaranteed by the United States and at the same time preserve its other interests in the region. This is a difficult equation indeed. If we are clever we should benefit from this difficult situation.

Of course, we should not be so sensitive about this matter. France was once Israel's main arms supplier. Today France is one the main arms exporters to Egypt and the Arab states. World politics are very complex and one should not be so sensitive about everything. China is our friend but it trades with the two warring Gulf states. North Korea, a communist state, is helping Iran and so is Israel. Syria and Libya are also helping Iran despite the fact that they are Arab states and Iraq is an Arab state. It is a game of interests, especially on the international political scene. So one should not be so sensitive about these things. We should look after our interests even with the devil.

I know from my experience with the Americans that they like figures very much. To them the most convincing language is the language of figures. They like frankness and they have an efficient intelligence agency. So when you go to them and claim that you love them, they are courteous to you and receive you well, but they know the facts. So I thought I would go and face them and discuss the facts with them.

What was the purpose of my visit and how could that purpose be served? The purpose of my visit was this: We wanted military and economic flexibility. We wanted all of it [the U.S. aid to Egypt] to be in the form of grants, not debts.

To convince them we had to explain to them the military situation around Egypt and perhaps in Egypt.

I explained that when you are stronger than your neighbor it is easy for you to solve your problems with that neighbor by military means. The proof — I spoke to them just like that — is that Israel invaded Lebanon to solve an imaginary problem called the Palestinian resistance there, claiming that the Palestinians had fired Katyusha rockets into Israel, and so on. Well, how much damage can one or two rockets do? Anyway, on the pretext of security they have taken southern Lebanon. They wanted to take the area up to the Al-Litani River. They reached Beirut in order to get rid of the Palestinian resistance. That is what happened in Lebanon. This is very clear. If you yourselves sensed that you were stronger than Russia, or rather if the Russians sensed that they were stronger than you, they would strike. You are convinced of this, and all your plans and all the statements of your officials and national security people attest to that.

They said: All right, we will settle this matter. Is the U.S. military aid sufficient?

[I said] No, it is not sufficient. We get from you $1.3 billion annually, of which $450 million is a grant. That sum was originally $400 million. The other $900 million are loans. Egypt was once occupied by the Britis' because of loans and debts. We are sensitive and we have a complex about debts. Do you want our relations to be relations of debts and creditors, with the prospect that these relations will suffer the same fate as our relations with others? We want to purify these relations and turn them into relations of strategic friendship and interests, and so forth. Let us settle this matter.

Speaking to them on the subject again I explained the situation in relation to the Soviet strategy and intentions in the region. For example, I explained to them — and perhaps you do not know these facts — that there are 76,000 Cuban and Soviet troops in Africa. People do not know these things. There are 13,000 Cubans and 6,000 Soviets in Ethiopia, 20,000 Cubans and over 5,000 Soviets in Angola, and 6,000 [not further identified] in Libya. Some states have 1,000 or 2,000 each. When you add them all up you will have a total of 76,000 Cuban military men. We do not (?even have) civilian experts. There is nothing between us like that, and why are they in Libya? Libya has 2,850 tanks. Why, who is threatening them? We are not threatening them. And so forth.

I explained all these things to them with maps and documents, and we had discussions. Finally I said to them: The $900 million are debts which we cannot possibly repay. The $450 million grant is not enough to buy us the necessary arms. Therefore the entire 1.3 billion should be a grant. You cannot give me $1 billion in economic grants and take from me the same amount in the form of the price of arms because that would mean that you were taking away with your left hand what you had given me with your right.

That was the main theme and purpose of that trip. Of course, they always ask very embarrassing questions. They would ask: Why did you withdraw your ambassador from Israel? My answer was very simple. I said that the withdrawal of the ambassador did not mean the end of the world. Problems occur between states. President Reagan wanted to recall the U.S. ambassador from Moscow in protest over the downing of the Korean airliner by the Soviets. You should have nothing to do with the withdrawal of the ambassador. What have you got to do with the ambassador to Israel? Are you Israel's trustees? Your real interests are with the Arabs. You have no interests in Israel whatsoever. On the contrary, Israel is the cause of your [problems]. What placed you in the situation you are in now in Lebanon? It was Israel's invasion of Lebanon. Who is playing games in Lebanon other than Israel, Syria, and the Soviet Union? Who placed you in that position?

That was our dialogue. They actually showed full understanding. I really got promises from the Americans that, beginning with the 1984/85 budget, they will give us the $1.3 billion military aid as grants not to be repaid.

On the manufacture of arms, Marshal Abu Ghazalah said: We

have come a long way in this respect, but there are certain industries which we cannot fully shoulder. Say we decide to manufacture advanced aircraft such as the F-16 and the Mirage 2000 — in line with the once popular slogan "from the needle to the missile" — it would be a difficult thing to do because whoever does that must have a very big market. The manufacture of F-16 and Mirage 2000 aircraft would require about 400 plants. Who has that kind of investment?

So, instead, we began manufacturing guns. Today we fully manufacture the double-barrel "23 July" antiaircraft gun. It comes in as iron ore and goes out as a gun. The plant is there, has been inaugurated, and is producing. We are manufacturing 122-mm Howitzer guns. God willing, we will see these guns on 15 October. We have also manufactured antitank missiles. These are light missiles but completely manufactured here.

We have manufactured armored cars, field artillery, antiaircraft guns and antitank missiles. We are working on tanks. Next year you will see a successful test sample. We are proceeding well. We have manufactured all types of ammunition and light weapons.

Cabinet Statement on Integration With Sudan

NC122008 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1740 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 12 Oct (MENA) — The Council of Ministers has stressed that all the integration steps that have been taken between Egypt and Sudan derive their real depth from the will of the higher political leaderships in both countries to achieve the aspirations of both peoples of the Nile valley through well thought out, confident, and decisive steps.

In a statement issued today on the occasion marking the first anniversary of the signing of the Integration Charter between Egypt and Sudan, the Council of Ministers asserts that the signing of the Integration Charter on 12 October 1982 is considered to be at the forefront of the great achievements made by the Nile valley people in their common march throughout history. The Charter is based on the will of both peoples, whom the immortal Nile River linked with the closest ties.

The following is the text of the statement:

The signing of the Integration Charter between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Democratic Republic of the Sudan on 12 October 1982 is considered to be one of the greatest achievements made by both peoples of the Nile valley in their common march throughout history. The popular unanimity of both fraternal peoples to back the Charter was splendid support for ratifying it and a great hope for a great future to benefit the sons of the Nile valley in Egypt and Sudan.

The Integration Charter is based on the will of both peoples, whom the immortal Nile valley links with the closest ties. This will is emphasized by their common history and continual sacrifices for this unity, as well as by souls of the martyrs who fell in the epics of joint struggle against invasion and occupation, and struggle for freedom.

The bonds between the two countries were strengthened by the common principles and aims which led to the outbreaks of the 1952 revolution in Egypt and the 1969 revolution in Sudan. Both revolutions have sought to achieve progress, catch up with development, work out a new glorious life on the soil of the great Nile valley and build a bright and prosperous future for the sons of both peoples. Thus, the Charter seeks to be faithful to the trust of the historical heritage and the common struggle of both countries to face responsibility in their capacity as part ofthe Arab and Islamic nation, as part of the African Continent, and as members of the Nonaligned Movement, and to work for international cooperation and support, and just peace.

Since the signing of the Charter, the achievements that have been made in this short period went beyond the aspirations expected from the coordination and cooperation between the two fraternal countries. Coordination and integration on the foreign level is dictated by the need to safeguard and support the principles in which both peoples believe and for which they work through joint cooperation in all international and regional organizations and establishments. The goal of integration in the national security domain, was in keeping with the goals of the Charter manifested by the desire of both peoples to support the integration at this delicate stage when external dangers are posed to their strategic security. This emphasizes the need to work out and implement a common defense and security strategy.

Integration in the economic field is considered to be the aspect closest to the direct interests of both peoples. Both peoples of the Nile valley want achievements that will secure their prosperity. For this reason, the Charter emphasized the importance of building establishments that can guarantee the achievement of the desired economic objectives. The Integration Fund was established and has actually begun to study and even to implement specific joint projects in the agricultural, industrial, and commercial fields. In addition, the infrastructure projects necessary for boosting the economic integration between the two countries have been discussed.

In the social sphere, the best method for coordination of policies in both countries in the fields of education, scientific research, health, culture, information, and tourism has been discussed.

In the public domain, the peoples organizations committee has taken long strides in laying strong foundations for cohesion and integration between the peoples and professional and artistic organizations in both countries. The real pillar for the success of the integration process is linked directly with the formation of popular bonds and deepening their concepts and activities.

The integration steps must proceed according to a legislative and constitutional context approved by the representatives of both peoples in their legislative institutions. A clear and tangible achievement made in the past few months was the meeting of the first session of the Nile Valley Parliament and the debate by the Parliament members of the Charter articles, the integration projects, the integration economic organizations and establishments, and the specialized ministerial technical committees.

All the integration steps that have been taken between Egypt and Sudan during this short period derive their real depth from the

will of the higher political leaderships in both countries to seek the fulfillment of the aspirations of both peoples of the Nile valley through well thought out, confident, and decisive steps. The continual meetings between President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and his brother President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri — within the framework of the periodic meetings of the Higher Council for Integration and their several bilateral meetings in the past few months — and the identity of their views on all pan-Arab, regional, and international issues, generate a momentum for more hope and optimism about a more prosperous future for both peoples of the Nile valley. At the same time, this will emphasize the distinguished political status both people occupy in the international community.

We are confident that the second anniversary of the signing of the Integration Charter will witness further achievements and sincere work and efforts that will achieve the aspirations of both great peoples.

Further on Cabinet Meeting

NC121800 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1518 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Statement by Minister of State for Information Safwat ash-Sharif on 12 October — recorded]

[Excerpts] At the outset of the Cabinet meeting today, Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din read the Egyptian Cabinet statement on the first anniversary of the signing of the Integration Charter between Egypt and Sudan.

The prime minister then spoke about activities of national interest over the past weeks. He reviewed what had been submitted to the People's Assembly at its extraordinary session, its approval of a number of economic agreements, and its agreement to extend the effectiveness of the Emergency Law, abolish two emergency laws and amend the suspicion law [qanun al-ishtibah]. In this regard the prime minister said that the abolishment of the laws and the amendment of the suspicion law are strides on the course of creating a more democratic atmosphere — something for which President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has been calling.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali then reviewed foreign policy. He also reviewed in detail the results of President Mubarak's visits to France and the United States. Regarding the visit to France he reviewed the economic and political objectives. He also reviewed the results of President Mubarak's discussions with President Mitterrand which touched upon the Lebanese issue, the Iraq-Iran war, the situation in Chad and bilateral relations. Furthermore, there have been meetings on the ministerial level. The discussions at these meetings dealt with France's financing of the nuclear stations that will be established in Egypt. They also discussed France's financing of the Damietta Port.

'Ali then reviewed the results of President Mubarak's visit to the United States. The economic topics had occupied a primary position in these talks which concentrated on turning the economic loans into grants as of the 1984/1985 budget, paying the interests on and servicing thee existing loans. These topics were concentrated on because of their importance to the economic and social development plan in Egypt.

'Ali also reviewed the results of President Mubarak's meetings and discussions with President Reagan as well as his meeting with members of the U.S. Congress. These results were carried and discussed by the information media at the time. The most important discussions were the political ones which were aimed at activating the Palestinian issue at a critical stage in view of the approach of the U.S. elections, the preoccupation of the Arab nation with its local issues, the Palestinian differences and the significance of upholding President Reagan's initiative.

The Cabinet then turned to the internal situation which was reviewed by Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha. His excellency stressed that stability in Egypt is being bolstered and that all efforts are being made to strengthen it despite the fact that there are some negative aspects. He said that the policies followed by the government and President Mubarak's efforts on the internal, Arab, and international spheres are aimed at eliminating these negative aspects and the attempts by some to undermine stability.

Mubarak Congratulates Numayri on National Day

NC111245 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1155 GMT 11 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, 11 Oct (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has sent a congratulatory cable to Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri on the occasion marking the Republic Day. The following is the text of the cable:

It gives me utmost pleasure to send to Your Excellency and to our brothers in the south of the Nile valley sincere heartfelt congratulations on your celebrations of the Republic Day, which coincides with the first anniversary of the signing of the Integration Charter between our two fraternal peoples. The close relations that have linked both our peoples of the valley since the dawn of history, which were strengthened by joint struggle against foreign domination, will always (?remain) strong [word indistinct] that will safeguard the march of our two peoples on the path to comprehensive unity. The achievements made during the first year of integration will have a positive effect on consolidating the integration march and yielding fruit. I sincerely pray to God to make our efforts successful for the good and pride of our nation. I extend to you my sincere greetings and wish you, dear brother, good health and happiness and the fraternal Sudanese people further progress and development under your wise leadership. With my highest esteem and fraternal appreciation.

Foreign Minister Meets Iraqi Envoy on Relations

NC111414 Cairo MENA in English 1325 GMT 11 Oct 83

[Text] Cairo, Oct 11 (MENA) — Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali conferred today with head of Iraq's interests section here Ambassador Samir Najm on means of consolidating bilateral relations in various fields in accordance with agreement reached during the recent visit of Iraqi Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz to Egypt. The meeting also dealt with the current situation in the Middle East.

Saddam Denies Delivery of Super Etendards
NC131046 Paris AFP in English 1045 GMT 13 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, Oct 13 (AFP) — France has not yet delivered five Super-Etendard fighter-bombers promised to Iraq, head of state Saddam Husayn said today.

But he said the planes would be delivered before the end of the month.

President Husayn told a news conference here that he believed the delay was due to "pressure brought by the United States and especially Britain" on the French Government.

"In light of this pressure," he said: "We have been in contact with the French authorities and they have affirmed that they will respect their commitments.

The president said France had imposed no conditions on Iraq concerning the use of the planes.

"We refuse conditions on arms that we buy with our own money," he declared. "We are an independent country."

But he acknowledged that there had been "a friendly exchange of views on the subject between French and Iraqi officials."

Communique 1,245 Reports Two Iranian Vessels Hit
JN121748 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1705 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Communique No 1,245 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 12 October 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

While continuing to defend Iraq, its principles, and the great achievements of its revolution, our valiant Armed Forces stand firmly and strongly in the face of the covetous Khomeyniites, recording new heroic feats against their forces on land and at sea. The results of the activities yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our valiant naval force this morning sighted several enemy naval targets north of the Iranian island of Khark moving westward toward the Khowr-e Musa Channel with Bandar Khomeyni as their destination. Our valiant naval units intercepted them, surprised them with severe and very painful blows, and at 1141 this morning succeeded in hitting one of the enemy naval targets in the Khowr-e Musa channel in an effective and direct manner while the remaining enemy naval targets fled toward the Iranian port of (Daylam) in a confused manner. As a result of this, confusion prevailed among the enemy. At 1212 today, an enemy warship tried to approach the hit enemy naval target to assist it and rescue its crew. Our valiant naval forces were lying in wait for the enemy and for its defeated naval targets and dealt a strong and surprise blow to the enemy warship. At 1301 today, our valiant naval forces succeeded in scoring direct and effective hits against the enemy warship. Our forward observation posts heard the sounds of the explosions coming from the area where the two enemy naval targets had been destroyed.

2. The daring eagles of our air force today carried out fierce raids against enemy positions, troop concentrations, and hardware in the northern sector of the battlefield, scoring direct and effective hits. Other formations of our daring aircraft raided enemy military targets and units deep inside enemy territory in the same sector, inflicting on them more losses in life and equipment. Flames and columns of smoke were seen covering the hit and destroyed enemy targets and positions. All our daring formations returned safely to base after accomplishing their mission.

3. Our forward units pounded an enemy troop concentration opposite their positions east of Basra with all types of weapons, killing one and destroying one excavator.

4. One vehicle was destroyed in the area facing Panjwin in the northern sector of the battlefield.

5. One infantry position was destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.

6. The evil Khomeyniite clique today intermittently shelled Basra and its suburbs, damaging several civilian installations.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 12 October 1983

ATH-THAWRAH on Expected Iranian Offensive
JN121248 Baghdad INA in English 1220 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Oct (INA) — The Baghdad leading daily *Ath-Thawrah said here today that the hesitation of the Iranian* regime to carry out its anticipated offensive, means that the peoples of Iran had become seriously aware of the Khomeyni charlatanism and are more reluctant to be sent to the war fronts where death is waiting.

In an article the paper, the mouthpiece of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party underlined President Saddam Husayn's reaffir mation on Monday that Iraqi victory over the Iranian aggression is certain and the final defeat of the enemy is not long.

"After three years of war during which the Iranians suffered massive disasters, destruction, human and material losses, they have now become aware that their new offensive will have no chance whatsoever of achieving any of Khomeyni's objectives"", the newspaper continued.

"The Iraqis this time will not only restrict themselves on crushing the aggression but will strike at the enemy deep inside its territory, and then the Tehran charlatans will realize the size of Iraq military might," the newspaper concluded.

Oil Minister Opposes Special OPEC Conference
JN081912 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1150 GMT 8 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi has said that despite the relative improvement in the international oil market,

the nature of recent developments do not encourage a call for convening an extraordinary ministerial conference as proposed by some oil circles in a number of OPEC countries.

In a statement to the magazine *At-Tadamun* issued here today, the Iraqi minister said that Iraq backs a long-range strategy and a rise in prices should circumstances call for it. He added that any rise in the ceiling of OPEC's total oil production should be based on a number of factors and considerations, foremost of which is the actual need dictated by the real demand for such increases, because imaginary and artificial demands cannot be taken into account when determining the overall ceiling and the production quotas of the OPEC member states.

Regarding the Iraqi-Saudi pipeline, the Iraqi minister of oil said: We are in continuous contact with Saudi officials to complete the steps to establish that pipeline, which we link to strategic dimensions requiring the reshaping and expansion of oil export outlets in accordacne with future possibilities in light of the events that face us, especially the war that is imposed on us.

Ramadan Receives Romanian Official 12 Oct

JN121753 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the RCC and first deputy prime minister, today received Nicu Ceausescu, member of the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee and first secretary of the Union of Communist Youth. During the meeting, Ceausescu gave Ramadan a verbal message to convey to President Saddam Husayn from Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu. The message dealt with bilateral relations and Romania's desire to expand these relations in the various fields. He also conveyed the Romanian president's greetings to President Saddam Husayn and expressed his country's satisfaction with the good relations between the two friendly countries.

Taha Yasin Ramadan also asked Ceausescu to convey to President Nicolae Ceausescu President Saddam Husayn's greetings and his satisfaction with the strong relations between Iraq and Romania. Ramadan also stressed Iraq's concern about strengthening ties of friendship and cooperation in the various fields in the service of the two friendly countries.

Anwar Mawlud, president of the Iraqi Youth Federation, and the Romanian ambassador in Baghdad attended the meeting.

Romanian Official Leaves

JN121938 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Oct (INA) — Nicu Ceausescu, member of the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee and first secretary of the Union of Communist Youth, left Baghdad for home this evening after a 1-week visit.

In a statement to INA, Nicu said that his talks with Iraqi officials dealt with developing economic, technical, and youth relations between the two countries. He pointed out that he attended the meetings of the regional committee of the International Youth Year as representative of the UN Committee of the International Youth Year which ended its work in Baghdad today in preparation for celebrating the 1985 international youth year.

Bomb Hurled at Public Security Barracks in Amman
JN131225 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Oct 83

[Text] Amman — A responsible source at the Interior Ministry has stated the following:

At 0545 today an explosive charge was hurled from a fast moving car at a Public Security guards barracks in the fourth circle area of Jabal 'Amman. A Public Security man was slightly wounded in the incident. He was given first aid treatment and then returned to his job. No material damage is reported.

The competent security quarters are carrying out investigations to discover the perpetrator of this incident.

JORDAN TIMES Urges Action on Fatah Crisis
JN111158 Amman Jordan Times in English 10 Oct 83 p4

[Editorial "Knee-Deep in Mud"]

[Text] Despite a Syrian statement two days ago that Damascus is not interested in attack forces loyal to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in north Lebanon, and despite reports that the powerful brother of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad is going to do his best to lift a Syrian siege of 'Arafat's supporters around Tripoli, the threat of a Syrian-Palestinian military confrontation still looms dangerously large. Should it be a showdown, every one must be prepared for the worst, for the whole map of the Middle East might be irrevocably redrawn.

During these past several days, the PLO chairman has not spared any effort to warn against the dangers of such a confrontation. His aides, in and outside Lebanon, have even described scenarios of how it all would happen. In the other camp, that of Damascus and the rebels against Arafat's leadership, the talk was not much different. On Sunday, the pro-Syrian Popular front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC), which strongly supports the Fatah rebels, accused 'Arafat of personally masterminding "massacres" against its people in Tripoli, and explicitly threatened that the PLO chairman would have to pay for it. On Saturday, the leaders of the various PLO groups held joint meetings with the rebels in Damascus and seem to have compromised 'Arafat's leadership. A day earlier, Abu Musa, the military rebel leader, said his rebellion was coming to a climax "in a few days", and not necessarily by negotiations or through peaceful means. Meanwhile, defections in Fatah, the largest fighting group within the PLO umbrella, have been reported to mount extraordinarily every day. And now of course there is the talk by the pro-Syrian Khalid al-Fahum, the speaker of the Palestine National Council (or parliament in exile), and others about their own constitutional status being the more legitimate (than that of 'Arafat) in the PLO.

Actually, so much has been happening lately that the stage looks set for a Syrian-backed confrontation with the Palestinians over the PLO's independence and its very well-being — a battle that would be a harbinger of ominous change in the Middle East, if won by the Syrian regime and its Palestinian friends.

Needless to say that just looking at this gloomy picture from a distance is not the best option for us in the Arab World. And we all know why. 'Arafat's pleas to our leaders to avert another Palestinian tragedy should not be taken lightly, and something, perhaps a lot, has to be done right away to preserve the legitimacy and independence of the PLO and its leadership — before it is too late and terribly muddy that is.

Egyptian Papers Distribution in Jordan Approved
JN121542 Amman Ar-Ra'y in Arabic 12 Oct 83 p 1

[Text] Amman — *Ar-Ra'y* has learned that Egyptian papers and magazines are permitted to be distributed in Jordan as of yesterday.

Amal Movement Absence Cancels Security Meeting

NC121620 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] The Security Arrangements Committee did not meet today due to the absence of a quorum because the Amal Movement's representative did not attend. Amal Movement sources have said that the movement's representative did not attend the meeting to protest the issuance of memorandums for the transfer or detention of some officers and military personnel. The same sources described this measure as contrary to the cease-fire agreement.

Dialogue Committee Members Receive Invitations

Preparatory Committee Members Named

NC121956 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Beirut Governor Engineer Mitri an-Nammar today visited the personalities concerned, who are residing in Greater Beirut, and conveyed to them invitations to the national dialogue. He frist visited President Camille Sham'un at noon today and handed him the invitation. President Sham'un explained later that the invitation is for the Preparatory Committee meeting tomorrow. The leader of the Lebanese Front [Sham'un] did not wish to officially divulge the name of his representative to the Preparatory Committee. However, he said that the newspapers have mentioned Marun Hilu and that Hilu could probably be the representative.

Governor an-Nammar then visited Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil, at the Phalange Party Political Bureau meeting, and handed him the invitation. It has been understood that Shaykh Pierre has nominated George Sa'adah as his representative in the Preparatory Committee.

Governor an-Nammar then proceeded to Al-Musaytibah and conveyed the president's invitation to Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam who later designated Muhammad al-Mashnuq, member of the Al-Maqasid Trusteeship Council, as his representative.

The governor of Beirut concluded his task by visiting Amal Movement leader lawyer Nabih Birri who received him at his home in Barbur and accepted the invitation from him. It has been learned that Birri has named 'Akif Haydar as his representative to the committee.

Meanwhile, Halim Fayyad, Governor of the south, visited [former Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies] 'Adil 'Usayran in Sidon and gave him the invitation to the Dialogue Committee meeting. Speaker 'Usayran nominated Dr 'Adnan Hunbballah as his representative to the Preparatory Committee.

Iskandar Ghibril, governor of the north, has stated that he has conveyed invitations to the dialogue to [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah and [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami and asked them to nominate their representatives to the Preparatory Committee's meeting. Their representatives have not yet been identified but it has been reiterated that President Franjiyah might nominate Ramiz Khasin and that Prime Minister Karami will nominate either 'Ashir ad-Dayah, mayor of the city of Tripoli, or his son lawyer Bassam ad-Dayah, as his representative.

Judge Muhammad az-Zuq, governor of Jabal Lubnan, declined to disclose if he has conveyed the invitation to Walid Junblatt. However, he said that he is waiting to see if Junblatt will come to Lebanon so he can give him the invitation.

However, our correspondent in Paris Antoine 'Awn has informed us that Lebanese Ambassador to France Faruq Abi-Lama' has communicated President al-Jumayyil's invitation to both Raymond Iddih and Walid Junblatt.

Junblatt, Others Name Representatives

NC122044 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Excerpts] According to a NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY report from Paris, Lebanese Ambassador in Paris Faruq Abi-Lama' this afternoon conveyed to Walid Junblatt, who is in the French capital, President al-Jumayyil's invitation to the Dialogue Committee meeting on 20 October and his request to nominate a representative to attend the Preparatory Committee's meeting tomorrow. Junblatt has designated Muhsin Dallul to represent him at the Preparatory Committee meeting. However, Raymond Iddih has not yet nominated his representative.

Meanwhile, Beirut Governor Mitri an-Nammar today conveyed President al-Jumayyil's invitation to [former] President Camille Sham'un and Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil. President Sham'un designated Marun Hilu and Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil nominated Alfred Madi as their representatives to the Preparatory Committee meeting.

Salim Representative Designated Chairman

NC122110 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Excerpt] The parties concerned have officially designated their representatives to the dialogue body Preparatory Committee meetings, which will begin at the Health Ministry building tomorrow and which will be chaired by Foreign Ministry Secretary General Ambassador Khalil Makkawi as a representative of Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim.

Representatives Arrive

NC130950 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0920 GMT 13 Oct 83

[Telephone dispatch by correspondent Samir Mansur from Health Ministry building — live]

[Text] At 1100, all the representatives of those invited to the National Dialogue Committee have arrived at the Health Ministry building which will be the headquarters of the National

Dialogue Committee's Preparatory Committee. The following personages arrived:

Ambassador Khalil Makkawi, Foreign Ministry secretary general; 'Akif Haydar, representing Nabih Birri; 'Adnan Huballah, representing former Speaker 'Adil 'Usayran; Muhammad al-Mashnuq, representing former Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam; Muhsin Dallul, representing Walid Junblatt; Alfred Madi, representing Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil; and Marun Hilu, representing former President Camille Sham'un.

The first meeting of the National Dialogue Committee's Preparatory Committee will be held any time now on the first floor in the Health Ministry building.

Preparatory Committee Begins Meeting

NC131009 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0944 GMT 13 Oct 83

[Telephone dispatch by correspondent Samir Mansur from the Health Ministry building Beirut — live]

[Excerpt] Local and foreign press photographers have finished taking photographs of the dialogue Preparatory Committee meeting, and the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the National Dialogue Committee has now begun in the presence of 'Akif Haydar, 'Adnan Huballah, Muhammad al-Mashnuq, Muhsin Dallul, Alfred Madi, and Marun Hilu. The meeting is being held on the first floor of the Health Ministry building in the Museum area. The conferees were seated as follows: At the head of the table is Ambassador Khalil Makkawi, the Foreign Ministry acting secretary general; on the right side are Marun Hilu, representing former President Camille Sham'un; Muhammad al-Mashnuq, representing former Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam, and Muhsin Dallul, representing Walid Junblatt. On the left side of the table are 'Adnan Huballah, representing former Speaker 'Adil 'Usayran; Alfred Madi, representing Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil, and 'Akif Haydar, representing lawyer Nabih Birri. The meeting is also attended by Elisee 'Alam, the committee's rapporteur.

Saudi King Donates Aid to Displaced Persons

NC121908 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Telephone dispatch by correspondent Joe Sa'adah from Presidential Palace — live]

[Excerpts] Since this afternoon, a series of meetings have been held at the Presidential Palace. This evening, Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim met with Saudi Prince Bandar's assistant Rafiq al-Hariri in an on-going endeavor to ensure the success of the Dialogue Committee meeting now that dates for the meetings of the Dialogue Committee and the dialogue Preparatory Committee have been designated.

Al-Hariri said that focus on designating the venue for the Dialogue Committee meeting is a complication of the matter and a wrong approach to the issue because the venue is not the basic problem. Al-Hariri said that the important thing is for the committee to meet at a suitable place where the conferees can conduct the dialogue in complete freedom.

Meanwhile, Rafiq al-Hariri has received a $12 million check from Saudi King Fahd for aid to displaced persons and the afflicted. Rafiq al-Hariri has begun to distribute this sum in the form of aid.

Al-Hariri Departs 12 Oct

NC121956 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Rafiq al-Hariri, assistant to Saudi Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, left Beirut for Paris this evening to meet with [National Bloc leader] Raymond Iddih and Walid Junblatt within the framework of completing the current contacts to set the dialogue issue in motion.

Al-Wazzan Condemns Idea of Shi'ite Army

NC091809 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 9 Oct 83

[Text] Commenting on the question of the formation of the so-called Shi'ite army in the south, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan said: The mere contemplation of this step is a new blow to the legitimacy and to its efforts to unite Lebanon and assume the responsibility over every inch in Lebanon.

Al-Wazzan added: I hail the patriotism of the secular and spiritual leaders of the dear Shi'ite community who have firmly resisted this step and expressed by their stands the position of every sincere patriot in Lebanon against any step of such partitionist character, especially in the dear part of the south. We know Israel's overt and covert ambitions in this area.

At any rate, Al-Wazzan went on, the Lebanese authority is continuing its efforts, in cooperation with the sincere people, to foil every action of this kind and to prevent the results coveted by its perpetrators.

Salim Contacts Saudi Counterpart on Dialogue

NC121323 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Concerning the venue of the Dialogue Committee, contacts continued today between Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim and his Saudi counterpart Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal to coordinate between the two countries concerning the venue of the National Dialogue Committee.

Diplomatic sources said that the foreign minister this morning made two telephone contacts with his Saudi counterpart, exchanging views and stances in respect of the current efforts for the Dialogue Committee meeting. In turn, the Saudi minister held contacts with his Syrian counterpart 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. Jidda and B'abda are proposed as the venue for the Dialogue Committee meeting.

Salim Briefs Cabinet on Current Developments
NC121328 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1145 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Telephone dispatch by correspondent Joe Sa'adah from Presidential Palace — live]

[Text] The Cabinet session ended at 1330 . A statement issued afterward says that the Cabinet held its weekly session at noon today, Wednesday. The Cabinet was briefed by the foreign minister on the contacts made regarding the Dialogue Committee and the Preparatory Committee meetings. The Cabinet took note that the Preparatory Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, 13 October, and that the Dialogue Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, 20 October. The venue of the meeting will be announced before that date. The Cabinet was also briefed by Minister Salim on the current contacts for ensuring neutral international observers to supervise the consolidation of the cease-fire, to be deployed in a network of positions in all Lebanese territory.

The Cabinet discussed the questions of displaced people and evacuees because of the recent incidents and decided to hold an extraordinary session at noon this coming Saturday to be devoted to social questions in general and the issues of displaced persons and means of remedying them in particular. The Cabinet discussed the items on its agenda and adopted the appropriate decisions.

Sham'un, Pierre al-Jumayyil Urge Syrian Talks
NC121946 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text][Former] President Camille Sham'un and [Phalange Party leader] Pierre al-Jumayyil today agreed on the need for holding direct negotiations between the Lebanese and the Syrian Governments to settle the internal disputes in Lebanon as well as the differences between Beirut and Damascus.

This agreement of views came in statements made by both President Sham'un and Shaykh Pierre after the Lebanese Front's weekly meeting. Discussions at the meeting dealt with political and security developments and the means to bring about the success of the national dialogue through the endeavors of the government, the Saudi mediation, and the U.S. efforts, as well as the various local and international moves.

The Front received a delegation representing displaced persons from Ash-Shuf and 'Alayh.

After the meeting, President Sham'un said that the discussions dealt with all matters, including the Dialogue Committee and the prospects of entering into negotiations with Syria to resolve all the disputes. He expressed his conviction that this will be the best way to achieve understanding and it dispenses with the dialogue.

President Sham'un said that the numerous views on the venue for the dialogue is proof of the difficulty of holding the dialogue. He believed that direct negotiations should be held between the Lebanese and the Syrian Governments and that this method could lead to the settlement of not only the disputes between the two governments, but also some of the fabricated local disputes.

Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil said: Holding the dialogue, which began about 2 months ago and which was accompanied by the cease-fire declaration, is a very important step and it is necessary for the Lebanese to agree among themselves, which is a basic matter. Regrettably, however, this is not sufficient because all the wars Lebanon experienced emanated from Syria. Therefore, we again call, in accord with President Sham'un's call, for holding negotiations between the Lebanese and the Syrian states to achieve an agreement that will establish peace in Lebanon.

Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil regarded the most momentous and most important subject raised today to be that of the Lebanese constitution which should be discussed in an atmosphere different from the atmosphere we are experiencing today under numerous occupations. He said that the mere discussion of this subject constitutes an attempt at playing with fire.

Army Chief of Staff Discloses Whereabouts
NC111836 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 11 Oct 83

[Text] Nadim al-Hakim, Lebanese Army chief of staff, told reporters today at the Junblatt family's palace in Al-Mukhtarah: Wait for good news from me after my meeting with Walid Junblatt in the next 2 days. He added: I am here in Al-Mukhtarah among my relatives and clan, and among my comrades in arms, the officers and soldiers who together with me are still working in the Lebanese Army.

Al-Hakim said he is awaiting Walid Junblatt's return to Hammana to meet with him and discuss several issues before publicly stating his position. He declined to confirm or deny the reports that he has joined the group of military personnel who rebelled against the Lebanese Army Command or that he has resigned his post as chief of staff.

Sulayman Franjiyah Opposes Press Censorship
NC111316 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 11 Oct 83

[Text] [Former] President Sulayman Franjiyah has warned the officials against continuing their prior censorship of the newspapers during this week. He said: If this censorship continues, they should be prepared for similar censorship. He added: Everything that is issued by the officials will be censored very severely in all of the northern area. If they managed to censor the newspapers, the Lebanese citizen will learn about their illegal actions, which are against the constitution, through the licensed radios.

That statement came at the press conference which President Sulayman Franjiyah held before noon today in his palace in Zgharta. Commenting on the fabricated outcry against the Maronite patriarch following his meeting with [Progressive Socialist Party leader] Walid Junblatt, President Franjiyah said: The community has not been accustomed to campaigns

against the Maronite patriarch. We believe that His Beatitude Patriarch Khuraysh is the one who should direct the relations between our community and the rest of the communities. President Franjiyah considered this outcry as fabricated because the Phalangist gang is seeking to impose itself as a guardian over the Maronite community which, throughout its history, has never accepted any guardian other than the Bkirki [seat of the Maronite patriarchate] patriarch whoever he may be.

Major Sa'd Haddad Address on His Health, Plans

JN111555 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 1020 GMT 11 Oct 83

[Address by free Lebanon leader Major Sa'd Haddad to Lebanese upon his release from hospital on 11 October 1983 — live or recorded]

[Excerpts] My Lebanese brothers, I am very pleased to return to you. As you know, my absence was inevitable. I love all of you wherever you are. Before I went to my house after my absence, I decided to address you through the radio and television because every one of you is a member of my family. We have been struggling together for 7 years as one family. You remember that Major Haddad did not take sick leave during these years. I did not forget the members of my family but forgot myself and my health and devoted all my efforts to serving you, hoping that we would save this homeland and these poor people. When the salvation hour has come, instead of benefiting from this opportunity, the officials have missed this chance deliberately or unconsciously, I do not know. They have missed this golden opportunity, which was offered to Lebanon on a golden plate. This is why you see what is going on Ash-Shuf or in other areas. These catastrophes from which Lebanon is suffering might be increased. All these things have affected me, and as I told you, I forgot myself and tried to bring hearts close together.

Regarding the Lebanese crisis, the Lebanese president has put his fate in the hands of the United States. The Americans are our friends, but they are concerned about their interests. I told you that U.S. interests do not necessarily coincide with Lebanese interests. U.S. interests lie in the Middle East as a whole and in the rich Arab states. Therefore, former Lebanese President Sarkis refused a U.S. proposal for setting up a U.S. airbase in Lebanon. We should put that in his record in his favor. The present NATO base will further complicate matters and there will never be a solution as long as this base exists because the so-called National Salvation Front, the Palestinians, and the Syrians do not have the final world. The problem is greater than this, because the Soviet Union will never accept any U.S. or NATO base in Lebanon.

There is no problem with Israel. What do you say about Al-Biqa', the north, Ash-Shuf, and Beirut? You should stop negotiations with Israel. You should first secure the Syrian withdrawal and then I will bring about an Israeli withdrawal. Some people say that there is a Shi'ite army in the south. The south today is the only area in which peace prevails. The south is an example for Lebanese coexistence. We should concentrate on national unity, coexistence, cooperation, and reconstruction as well as on securing Lebanese authority over the south. Then all the other factions can ask for their rights. Leave us alone for some time. We have no Shi'ite or Christian army. We have a Lebanese army. This army will become the legitimate army. As you know, the Amal Movement is not a military movement. It is a movement against persecution. Neither the Israelis nor the Christians persecuted Amal. The armed Palestinians persecuted Amal.

I would like to disclose something to you. No doubt I have suffered from much fatigue. As I told you, during these 7 years of constant work without rest I forgot to pay attention to my health. My intention was to help you. I gave you everything, including my heart and soul. All this has had an effect on my health. The doctors have decided that I need rest in order to regain my previous health. The period of rest might be long or short. But at the same time, I will be near, but far from you. I will run and protect your affairs without being among you. I will run everything through correspondence. This is simply to enable me to regain my health. What can we do? This is God's wish.

What I would also request from you, and if you really want Sa'd Haddad to regain his health and return among you, you must first love one another and return to virtue. Second, I do not want any problems in the region. Provide me with a calm atmosphere.

I regret that I will not be able to receive well-wishers. Well-wishers can sign the visitors' book. Do not bother yourselves. I understand your sentiments. Nobody should be annoyed if he is told that he cannot see the major because he needs complete rest. As I told you, I will continue to control and tackle the important matters. I will not let matters run out of control. I will spend part of the rest period at home in my village and part of it outside home. I will do as directed by the doctors. I cannot go against their instructions.

There have also been many rumors that Major Haddad has cancer; Major Haddad I don't know what; Major Haddad is under house arrest; Major Haddad will be changed. No. First of all, Major Haddad is for Lebanon. He was established in accordance with a Lebanese order to serve Lebanon and the Lebanese. Nobody knows Israel like I do. Israel has never betrayed or abandoned its friends.

We and Israel will continue the march until we deliver Lebanon and restore freedom and independence to the whole of Lebanon and live in peace with Israel. I would like to assure you that Israel has no ambitions in Lebanon. It is of course concerned about the security of its inhabitants. As for the hue and cry raised over the closure of Al-Awwali, I would like to tell you the following:

Instead of raising a hue and cry against this party, please let them raise a hue and cry over the Syrians and those who claim to be members of the National Resistance. This Lebanese resistance must confront the Syrians and not send booby-trapped cars and explosives to this region. Let them not send these because if there is an explosion here and there how can they expect the roads to remain open? This is if they are really concerned about us. Frankly, I want the roads to remain open. I do not want the sons of my country, whether in southern Lebanon or elsewhere, to face any difficulty from the closure of any road.

You, who are claiming to be progressive and want to carry out liberation, if you are really concerned about the interest of the

people in southern Lebanon, please do not send booby-trapped cars and explosives as they will achieve nothing.

These are my directives to you. God willing, I will soon be able to again address you and give you my good news. As I said, I apologize that I will not be able to receive any visitors. I need a period of rest which I would prefer to spend here among you rather than abroad. I might have to go abroad, but I will come back. Out of my love for you, I said I would like to be among you. Rest assured that even during my period of rest, I will continue to run your affairs. Whoever has a problem should refer it to my assistant at the barracks. He will solve it if he can; otherwise he will refer it to me, and I will provide the solution. Do not think that I will leave you. I will be with you to the end. I also request you to pray for me, so I can recover quickly.

I hope to hear your good news, and you will hear our good news. God willing, we will be able to march along together to the end until Lebanon from Ras an-Naqurah to An-Nahr al-Kabir becomes one unified country with only the Lebanese flag waving on it. Long live free Lebanon. Thank you.

Resignation Reports Denied

JN120650 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Major Sa'd Haddad, leader of free Lebanon has stated the following: Some local and foreign news media have misinterpreted the speech that Maj Haddad delivered yesterday afternoon. They said that Maj Haddad had submitted his resignation, but the fact is that Maj Haddad is only taking sick leave, and even during this sick leave he will continue to work. We draw everyone's attention to this clarification.

Haddad's Metulla News Conference

JN131026 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in English 0947 GMT 13 Oct 83

[Live telephone conversation between Don Otis, Voice of Hope Radio correspondent in Metulla, northern Israel, and an unidentified radio announcer]

[Text] [Otis] Major Sa'd Haddad, leader from free Lebanon, just concluded a press conference here in the northern Israeli town of Metulla, in which he denied reports from various news sources and agencies that he was stepping down from his position as leader of free Lebanon. The confusion apparently comes from the fact that he was released from Haifa's Rambam Hospital in the last few days, but Haddad said "I am going to rest, but maintain the same policies and decisions and will be overseeing everything." Haddad reiterated what was said on the Voice of Hope 2 days ago and that is that he is exhausted and that he hasn't had any rest for 7 years. He also denied rumors of possible cancer, saying "Thank God, I have no cancer." In the interim Haddad's assistant (Sharbil Barakat) will be overseeing routine duties in free Lebanon.

[Announcer] Don, was there any indication from the major how long this temporary situation will last?

[Otis] He said the doctor at the hospital had not given him any specific time, but said that it would be at least 2 weeks.

[Announcer] Don, thank you very much.

47 Killed in Tripoli Clashes 12 October

NC121656 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1633 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Excerpts] The latest security report from Tripoli says that the death toll for today's regrettable clashes in the city reached 47 killed, including 37 from the Communist Party, and 10 from the Islamic Unification movement. The report says that the security situation is still tense and that bursts of gunfire can be heard at An-Najmah Square.

The security situation in Tripoli is now better than it was before 1700 today. It should be recalled that a statement was issued by the Coordination Committee following a meeting at [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami's home, calling for a cease-fire as of noon today. The statement defined the steps which all parties agreed to implement. The response to the Coordination Committee's decision, however, was not met, and very violent clashes erupted this afternoon and continued until 1700.

VOL Alleges Differences Between Syria, Allies

NC101646 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 10 Oct 83

[Text] According to information received by the Voice of Lebanon on the conditions in the Al-Biqa', 'Asim Qansuh [Ba'th Party regional secretary] is worried by the Syrian actions, because he has been neglected recently because of Damascus' tendency to deal with elements sympathizing with Iran in the Ba'labakk and Al-Hirmil Districts.

The Syrians are now exerting efforts to reconcile the wing of lawyer Birri in the Amal Movement and the Islamic Amal Movement, which is led by Al-Musawi. Damascus' objective is to obtain Shi'ite support, enabling the Syrians to act more freely. However, the Syrian efforts have produced no results so far because Al-Musawi demands that Nabih Birri resign his post as Amal leader and that a new Command Council be formed in which posts will be equally divided between the two commands. The Amal Movement has rejected this condition.

Differences have emerged between Husayn al-Musawi and Shaykh Subhi at-Tufayli. Some of these differences are due to the distribution of the weapons seized from the Ash-Shaykh 'Abdallah Barracks. Iran tried to resolve the disagreement and summoned both men to Tehran. However, the differences remain unresolved.

According to the same information, Al-Musawi is seeking to contact the Israelis and Abu Sati', commander of the Shi'ite army in the south. Shaykh Husayn at-Tufayli is trying to lure Al-Musawi's supporters so he may control the Islamic Amal movement.

Moreover, differences have emerged between the Syrians and Suhayl Hamadah, leader of the Arab Democratic Party, because of Hamadah's refusal to send fighters to participate with the Jublattites in the mountain war.

Relations between the socialists and the Syrian Nationalists are passing through a very critical stage, particularly in the wake of the massacres the socialists committed in the Ash-Shuf and during which some Syrian nationalists were killed in villages in 'Alayh and the Ash-Shuf. Contacts and meetings are being held among the Nationalists, pro-'Arafat Fatah elements, and 'Asim Qansuh to coordinate their stands and confront the developments. The Syrian intelligence has addressed direct warnings to these sides to abandon their negative stands toward Damascus.

Meeting Held With French on Army Equipment Needs

NC111428 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 11 Oct 83

[Text] In a meeting held today under Defense Minister 'Isam Khuri, several senior Lebanese officers and a French mission examined the Army needs for equipment, in keeping with the French-Lebanese protocol concluded between the two countries.

Fire Exchanged With Israeli Forces in Al-Biqa'
JN121912 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] In Beirut, press correspondents report that clashes with light and medium weapons took place today between the Syrian and Israeli forces on the contact line in Al-Biqa'. The exchange of fire lasted approximately 1 hour.

Al-Asad Grants Interview to Swiss Television
JN121610 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1305 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus, 12 Oct (SANA) — President Hafiz Al-Asad has granted an interview to (Erich Kisling), representative of Swiss Television, in which he replied to questions on the situation in the region. The following is the text of the interview:

First question: Your Excellency, how do you view the settlement of the dispute in Lebanon?

Mr President: Domestic differences over the past years brought about the the Lebanese civil war. This is something which is very well known. The state of affairs became more complicated when Israel invaded Lebanon and when it imposed the hegemony agreement on Lebanon. This agreement dictates that Lebanon abandon its Arab commitments and its Arab role. This agreement also deprives Lebanon of its sovereignty and independence and places it completely under Israeli tutelage. All these matters, whether those dealing with domestic differences or those caused by the Israeli invasion, must be settled by the Lebanese through dialogue and they must adopt a unified stand on them. Thus, the dispute in Lebanon will be settled and peace will be established in Lebanon.

Second question: Do you believe that Lebanon can achieve peace if all the foreign forces withdraw from it?

Mr President: There is only one foreign army in Lebanon. This is the Israeli Army which came as an invader. The Syrians and the Lebanese are Arabs and belong to the same people. We have a common heritage and a common history. It seems that many in in the Western world ignore this fact. Though we are one people, we went to Lebanon only after the legitimate authorities in that country asked us to do so. The Syrian forces were asked to help in halting the civil war there. Had the Lebanese Government asked for the withdrawal of the Syrian forces before the Israeli invasion, the Syrian forces would have withdrawn on the date that the Lebanese authorities had set. Moreover, at one time or another, we wanted to withdraw. We even decided to withdraw but the legitimate authorities there told us to remain.

If we go back to the statements made by the two Lebanese presidents who have held the office since 1976, and even to the statements of the Lebanese presidents before and during the Israeli invasion, we will find that their statements corroborate what I am saying and that they praised the Syrian forces for the role they assumed in halting the civil war. The parties to the dispute must eliminate the causes which brought about the Lebanese civil war. Therefore, there is only one foreign army in Lebanon, an army which came as an invader. Israel has its own language, interests, and its own components which cannot be linked in one way or another with Lebanon or any other Arab country. The Israeli forces must withdraw from Lebanon without imposing any conditions on that country. The withdrawal of the Israeli forces will help in settling the Lebanese-Lebanese dispute with Arab assistance.

With respect to the Syrian forces, they are ready to respond to the request of the Lebanese Government after Israel withdraws its forces from Lebanon because we believe that such a request will come from the Lebanese will and not from the Israeli pressures caused by the Israeli occupation of Lebanon.

Third question: What are Syria's conditions for supporting the Lebanese Government under Amin al-Jumayyil, or is it necessary to replace this government?

Mr President: The issue is linked to a policy and not to a specific government. In the past, we supported the Lebanese Government when the Lebanese president announced that he would not give up anything to Israel which might harm Lebanese sovereignty, undermine Lebanese national accord, or affect Lebanon's commitments or Arab duties. However, what took place has been completely different. We support a united and independent Lebanon which will achieve accord among its sons and which will pursue its Arab role.

Fourth question: The Palestinians are playing an important political role in Middle East politics; what policy do you think the PLO should pursue?

Mr President: The PLO has its own national councils which determine its policy. As for the Arab-Israeli conflict, it is the concern of all Arabs, not the concern or prerogative of any single Arab side.

Fifth question: What is your opinion of Yasir 'Arafat?

Mr President: In what way?

Sixth question: What is your opinion of Yasir 'Arafat; can he lead the PLO?

Mr President: This matter depends on the agreement of the Palestinian organizations which make up the PLO and also on the unified stand of these organizations. At any rate, the decision rests with our brothers in the Palestinian organizations.

Seventh question: Syria criticizes U.S. Middle East policy; what must the United States do to play a more constructive role in the Middle East?

Mr President: The United States is absolutely pro-Israel. It provides it with arms, funds, and political backing to enable it to continue its aggression and expansion and to keep the Arab territories it has occupied. This does not qualify the United States to play a constructive role in the Middle East question. The United States is doing the same thing in Lebanon. Instead of being a peacekeeping power, it has become a direct party to the Lebanese civil war. As a major power, the United States must be

completely neutral on the problems of the region so it can play a constructive role.

Eighth question: How do you evaluate Syrian relations with the USSR?

Mr President: Syria's relations with the USSR are relations of strong friendship. This stems from the USSR's fair stand against Israeli aggression and for a just and comprehensive peace in the region. We deal with one another with great respect and exchange opinions in the context of the mutual interests of both countries.

Ninth question: Is there any possibility that Syria will requestt military aid from the USSR, say, if it is attacked by Israel?

Mr President: We did not expect up to now to be compelled to ask for direct military support from the USSR. At any rate, wer are in continuous contact with one another and we exchange opinions on various matters of mutual concern or on any subject which either country may want to raise.

Tenth question: Is Syria willing to contribute to the achievement of a comprehensive peace in the Middle East, and how?

Mr President: Yes, we want a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East on the basis of the UN resolutions, which provide for Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and for guaranteeing the Palestinian Arab people's rights. This can take place through the formula of an international peace conference linked to the United Nations.

Eleventh question: What is your opinion of Switzerland's stand on the Middle East?

Mr President: Of course, we hope that Switzerland will be on our side so long as we have a just cause. We believe that aggression must be condemned by the whole world; otherwise, it will be difficult to achieve peace and stability in the world.

Twelfth question: How do you view the relations between Switzerland and Syria?

Mr President: The relations between Switzerland and Syria are good. We have more than one agreement in the commercial and economic fields.

Fatah, Syrian Officials Speak at Damascus Rally

JN112020 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1902 GMT 11 Oct 83

[Text] Fatah held a popular rally at Damascus University auditorium this evening on the second anniversary of leader Abu Sharar's martyrdom and the first anniversary of leader Sa'd Sayil's martyrdom. Attending the rally were 'Isam al-Qadi, regional command member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and secretary general of the As-Sa'iqah forces; Comrade Tawfiq Salihah, the party's regional command member; Khalid al-Fahum, PNC speaker; Ahmad Jibril, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-GC; 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, the PLO official spokesman; Samir Ghawshah, secretary general of the Popular Struggle Front; Nimr Salih, Fatah movement Central Committee member; and some members of the PLO Executive Committee. Also present at the rally were Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, assistant secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine; Abu Mahir al-Yamani [Ahmad al-Uamani], member of the Political Bureau of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine; Staff Brigadier General Muhammad Tariq al-Khadrah, commander in chief of the Palestine Liberation Army; George Batal, member of the Lebanese Communist Party Political Bureau; the NSF representative; representatives of the Lebanese national movement; representatives of the Palestinian parties and political forces; and a crowd of citizens.

Khalid al-Fahum delivered a speech on behalf of the Palestinian revolution in which he asserted that the Arab region is being exposed to an imperialist American onslaught represented by direct U.S. intervention in Lebanon, where its fleets and warplanes are present under the pretext of protecting the Multinational Forces and in order to deal a blow to the Lebanese nationalist forces. He also said that Washington, which moves militarily in the region, did not do anything when the international forces were exposed to Israeli aggression in Lebanon in 1978. He added that the dispatch of the U.S. fleet to the Lebanese coast is aimed at threatening Syria's steadfastness and the Lebanese nationalist movement and described the battle in Lebanon as a battle between the advocates of freedom, progress, and Arabism and the advocate of agentry, treason, and reaction. He also accused the CIA and the Mossad of working for the partitioning of Lebanon. He also affirmed the Palestinian people's rejection of all the capitulatory plans and liquidation which were proposed through the Camp David accords, the Reagan initiative, and the conspiratorial autonomy rule. He also asserted the Syria is the shield of the Palestinian revolution, and that Syrian soil is the base for liberation. He added that this fact is a firm and lasting one, because Syria's leader is the Arab, unionist, and brave struggler President Hafiz al-Asad, the son of Syria, Palestine, and Arabism, the leader of the October war, and the leader of confronting Israel and imperialism on the land of Palestine and Lebanon.

He described the relations between Syria and the Palestinian revolution as strategic. He also called for further promoting and solidifying these relations.

George Batal then delivered a speech on behalf of the Lebanese nationalist movement and the National Salvation Front in Lebanon. He said that the existing alliance of Syria, the Palestinian revolution, and the Lebanese nationalist movement is baptized with blood. He added that this alliance is necessary for the achievement of victory. He attacked the United States and its NATO allies, denouncing U.S. and NATO military interference in Lebanon's affairs after they sent their fleets and planes to its shores. He said that Washington, its allies, and agents are experiencing a real ordeal in Lebanon, stressing that the Lebanese land will become a graveyard for the imperialists.

George Batal attacked the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and called for its nullification, pointing out that Israel is the fierce

enemy of Lebanon, Palestine, and all the Arab countries. He said that the Syrian-Palestinian-Lebanese alliance constitutes the impregnable dam in the face of the imperialist- Zionist onslaught against our Arab region. He called for distinguishing between the friend and the foe in the Arab and international arenas.

Comrade Tawfiq Salihah, Ba'th Party Regional Command member, delivered a speech on behalf of the Ba'th Party. He said that the Arab land is off limits to its enemies and that it will never be a center or gateway for imperialism and Zionism.

Comrade Salihah said: Not content with only supporting Israel and arming it with the means of destruction and assisting its midget agents with the purpose of destruction, imperialism went beyond this and interfered militarily, thus removing all the false masks behind which it used to hide. Comrade Salihah added: Syria has reiterated its firm stands in support of Arab Lebanon, the National Salvation Front, and the Lebanese national resistance to keep Lebanon Arab in heart and language.

Comrade Salihah added that Syria, which rejected and confronted all pressures, will continue to remain committed to its firm and principled stands based on the Ba'th Party objectives and out of its belief in the unity of the cause, the fate, and the objective. He said that the organic relationship between Syria and Lebanon is stronger than the relationship which exists between any two U.S. states and that Syria's sacrifices in its confrontation of the Zionist invasion stem from this premise.

Comrade Salihah stressed that the imperialist aggression against the region aims to harm Syria's steadfastness because it is the steadfast bastion. He also stressed that Syria's decision, under President Hafiz al-Asad, is an expression of the nation's steadfastness, pride, and loftiness and a rejection of all forms of bargaining. He said that Syria is supported by all the masses in this country and the masses of the Arab nation and that Damascus is the capital of pan-Arab steadfastness.

Comrade Salihah praised the socialist bloc countries and the USSR in particular. He described the USSR as being the most loyal friend and the one which strongly champions our rights and causes. He added that the Palestinian cause will remain the major concern of all the Ba'th Party strugglers and of the masses of our Arab nation. He said: We shall continue to have faith in this cause and we shall continue to struggle for it, and our sons will continue to be martyred for the sake of this cause.

Comrade Salihah added: Our stand on the cause of Palestine is a firm ideological stand and our Armed Forces will continue to defend the causes of the people and the nation.

At the end of the rally Brother Nimr Salih delivered a speech on behalf of the Fatah Movement. In his speech, Nimr Salih praised the hero Palestinian martyrs and said that martyrdom is an honor which can only be won by the strugglers, the sons of the militant people. He stressed the need to solidify strategic cohesion among Syria, the Palestinian revolution, and the Lebanese National Salvation Front for defeating all the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary schemes.

He then spoke in detail about the heroic epic battle waged by the Palestinian revolution in Beirut with the Lebanese National forces and the Syrian Arab forces against the Zionist-U.S. invasion.

Brother Nimr Salih praised the stand of the socialist bloc countries and the stand of world liberation forces on the Palestinian cause, foremost among them the friendly USSR.

He stressed the importance of Palestinian national unity; the commitment to the unity of the PLO, the Palestinian people's sole and legitimate representative; and the commitment to the political program of the Fatah Movement.

Comrade Nimr Salih denounced the elements of the counter-revolution that are seeking to sow discord among the Palestinian fighters with the purpose of dragging them into peripheral battles from which only the enemies of the revolution will benefit.

Concluding his speech, he addressed greetings to the Syrian Arab people and to the Ba'th Party and its secretary general, comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad.

As-Sa'iqah Spokesman Assails 'Arafat Statements

JN102121 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 10Oct 83

[Text]Comrade Farhan Abu al-Hayja', official spokesman of the General Command of the Popular Liberation War Vanguards - As-Sa'iqah Forces has said: Since Fatah bases have moved in a great uprising against their deviant rightist leadership, thus gaining the sympathy of all strugglers and honorable people in the Arab homeland for their attempts to rectify the political and organizational situation of the Palestinian revolution, 'Arafat's deviant leadership, which represents a submission to proposals aimed at liquidating the Palestinian cause, disavowing our people's national and pan-Arab rights and the martyrs' blood and souls, began to attack Syria and its militant pan-Arab stances.

Everybody knows that Fatah differences are purely internal ones with which other parties have nothing to do. Any solution to these differences must be based on rectifying the political and organizational course of Fatah and the PLO which was dominated by the rightist course in the previous stage.

In a statement today, Abu al-Hayja' said: This reform must be based on adherence to the objectives of the national Palestinian struggle and the political and organizational program and the reinforcement of the armed struggle. Abu al-Hayja' added: Everyone knows that 'Arafat agreed to the Reagan plan, even before it was declared and prepared, for the departure of the Palestinian revolution from Beirut to join the political game and the settlement proposals presented by the United States in the region.

Abu al-Hayja' added: The hostile statements made by 'Arafat, [Khalil] Al-Wazir, and Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] against Syria's steadfastness and the battle it is waging against the U.S.-Israeli schemes of hegemony over the region and the Lebanese nationalist forces' steadfastness and their alliance with Syria and the

Palestinian revolution -- thus acquitting the Beirut factional regime of all its misdeeds -- aim fabricating an imaginary confrontation with Syria and dragging the Palestinian arena into more internecine fighting and bloodshed. What took place in the Al-Baddawi and Al-Barid camp is a good example.

Abu al-Hayja' asserted that 'Arafat, who is slandering Syria, knows as well as our masses that he himself and his deviant course are the ones that are plotting against the revolution, its armed struggle, and its martyrs' blood while Syria is leading the real confrontation against the proposals of U.S. hegemony over the region and the NATO fleet and troop concentrations.

Abu al-Hayja' asked: In whose interests does 'Arafat utter these slanders against Syria and in whose interests does 'Arafat seek to split the Palestinian unity and shed innocent blood? In whose interests does 'Arafat enter the political U.S. club, abandoning the Palestinian rifle? In whose interests does 'Arafat cooperate with all Syria's reactionary enemies, including the killers and criminals from Muslim brothers whose hands were stained with the blood of Syria's struggling sons?

Abu al-Hayja' said: By offering these services to the parties of the plot led by the United States in the region, 'Arafat's course aims at facilitating the achievement of these parties' objectives of hegemony, liquidation of the Palestinian revolution, and termination of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Abu al-Hayja' denounced 'Arafat's plotting and his attempts to accuse others, strike at Palestinian national unity, destroy its alliances, sow despair, and practice deviation.

Abu al-Hayja' urged the Palestinian masses to be alert and vigilant with regard to the falsehoods and lies of this deviant course which does not have the legitimacy of representing the rifle after plotting against it and after he has been rejected by the Fatah bases. He also called on these masses to safeguard the Palestinian revolution's allies and friends and to confront any attempt to strike at these alliances. He also urged them to rally around the national Palestinian stance, represented by the rifle and the overwhelming majority of the Palestinian revolutionaries until the achievement of the objectives of national Palestinian struggle in repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of the independent Palestinian state on the entire Palestinian soil.

U.S. 'Uproar' Rejected; Role in Lebanon Affirmed

JN111057 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 11 Oct 83

[Press review]

[Text] In an editorial entitled "The U.S. Uproar and the Firm Syrian Stand," *Al-Ba'th* says: From time to time, and with or without reason, the United States creates a big uproar and makes accusations against Syria from the highest level of authority in Washington. In most cases, these accusations come from President Ronald Reagan himself.

Very often, the U.S. accusations against Syria are on two counts. First, from the U.S. viewpoint, Syria is an obstacle to the settlements and solutions which Washington has for some time been proposing to achieve peace in the region, consolidate security, and prevent explosive situations in the Middle East. Second, Syria is working hard at improving its defense capability and is about to or has already become one of the effective military powers in the region. In the view of the United States, this development makes Syria a threat to peace and enables it to adopt a tougher line in defense of its principles.

Syria cannot absolutely deny these two accusations, but it can always differ with Washington in the interpretation of their impact on peace in this region. Syria has never hesitated to announce its rejection of all the U.S. ideas which have been revealed in Washington or have been brought by U.S. envoys, irrespective of their titles and missions, ideas which have been described at the time as either settlement proposals, negotiable ideas, or ready-made agreements which only needed the signatures of the parties concerned. The Syrian rejection of these ideas was not a secret or a mere shy objection in closed chambers. At the same time, it was not rejection for the sake of rejection, but was based on the clear premise that these ideas and proposals radically conflict with the interests of Syria and the entire Arab nation and represent in one way or another an attempt to achieve Tel Aviv's wish by diplomatic means. Did Washington believe that Syria would facilitate the passage of such ideas, secure their entry into the region, and ensure their success? Did Washington actually imagine that what suits Zionism's wish and asserts its will suits Syria, safeguards its interests, and satisfies its ambition?

The other cause of Washington's uproar these days is Syria's efforts to improve its defense capability and to try to achieve some kind of strategic balance in the region after Egypt's exit from the trench of the Arab-Zionist conflict. In the view of the United States, these efforts are a threat to peace and toughens Syria's defense of its principles. Once again, Syria does not build its military power in the dark nor does it consider it a secret which must not be disclosed. This is because Syria truly wants to exercise its legitimate right of defending itself and the interests of its Arab nation in the face of this evil wave of invasion which the Zionist forces are carrying out on Arab territory with U.S. encouragement and U.S. arms, which have exceeded all bounds and costs.

The strange thing is that the United States does not consider the fact that its enormous support for Tel Aviv could be a threat to peace and naturally prompt the Arabs, in the exercise of the right of self-defense, to improve their fighting capability and cover every loophole in their defenses so as to be able to safeguard their own security and regain their usurped rights. Syria is no longer perturbed by U.S. uproar about its political and military activity. It is also no longer perturbed at all when this uproar is accompanied by U.S. military reinforcements in the Mediterranean coasts under the pretext of restoring peace in Lebanon. Amid all this U.S. uproar and show of force Syria clearly knows where it stands. It also knows that it is shouldering its national and pan-Arab responsibilities as hoped by the Arabs. The U.S. uproar around us and the U.S. accusations against us remain proof that

we are pursuing the right course. As comrade leader Al-Asad said: We have nothing to promise others except what we believe is right and just.

Commenting on the same subject in its "Behind the News" column, *Tishrin* says: When the United States discovered that all its efforts did not lead to the implementation of its conspiratorial plan, it resorted to direct intervention through the Marine Forces and the U.S. warships off the Lebanese coasts to prevent Suq al-Gharb from falling into the hands of the progressive national forces led by Walid Junblatt. In an obvious attempt to cover this failure, the United States accused Syria of intervening on the side of the nationalist forces against the Phalangist army and militias. Although Syria has never denied that it is backing the progressive nationalist forces in Lebanon headed by the National Salvation Front and the Amal Movement, what took place in Ash-Shuf and the mountain was internal fighting between the nationalist forces and the Phalangist forces, which obtained the full support of the Marine Forces and which enabled them to check the advance of the nationalist forces.

Today the plot is renewed in different forms. The Zionist invasion forces are making preparations to annex southern Lebanon to the Zionist entity by trying to close the bridges on the Al-Awwali River, which would mean isolating the south from the rest of Lebanon. The U.S. Administration is also accusing Syria of having obtained sophisticated Soviet SS-21 missiles in an obvious attempt to justify its continued intervention in Lebanon and to prepare for a new intervention due to Syria's procurance of those missiles.

We would like to affirm that Syria will continue to carry out its national and pan-Arab duty by giving all kinds of assistance and support to all progressive and freedom forces throughout the Arab world. The threat of using U.S. planes and fleets will not prevent it from carrying out this duty.

U.S.'Psychological Warfare' Denounced

JN101616 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1225 GMT 10 Oct 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] As was expected, U.S. President Ronald Reagan has personally taken part in the provocative U.S. battle against Syria, instigating, participating, inspiring, and implementing, thus disclosing that the information leaked by U.S. intelligence,disseminated by U.S. newspapers, and commented on by official U.S. sources regarding Soviet missiles obtained by Syria is only part of a programmed and well-studied scheme drawn up by the highest levels of the U.S. Administration. This scheme aims, among other things, at harming Syria, on the one hand, and justifying the U.S. involvement in Lebanon's internal affairs, the U.S. concentrations in the region, and the dispatch of sophisticated weapons to Israel, on the other.

The U.S. President's participation in the U.S. psychological warfare against Syria to justify U.S. military involvement in Lebanon and the region to the U.S. public, to justify the failure of U.S. schemes in Lebanon and the region indicates the magnitude of the impasse U.S. policy in the Middle East has reached and the failure of the gunboat policy through which the Reagan administration tried to impose its will on the region and nullify the achievements of the Arab national liberation movement.

It is regrettable that the president of a superpower, such as the United States, has again reiterated words which he knows are unfounded and unrealistic. Let us take, for example, what President Reagan said and repeated about Syria's disavowal of its promise to withdraw from the Lebanese territories. His claim that Syria went back on its promise is unfounded, and Syria does not consider the United States a competent quarter responsible for running Lebanon's affairs or supervising Lebanon's relations with the Arab countries, nor the party to be negotiated with on relations between Syria and Lebanon.

Syria has always said and is still saying that Lebanon was not, is not, and will not be a U.S. protectorate, state, or an extension of U.S. national security. Syria does not see any justification for making promises or pledges to the United States with regard to Lebanon. The relationship between Syria and Lebanon is a Syrian-Lebanese affair as well as an Arab affair. It is not, in any case, a U.S. or a U.S.-Arab affair.

Syria has said in the past and says today that there will be no problem between Syria and Lebanon when the Israeli invasion forces unconditionally pull out from the Lebanese territories without achieving any gains at the expense of Lebanon's sovereignty, independence, and pan-Arab relations, commitments, and duties This Syrian stand is known by Lebanon's rulers.

Syria respects what it says and abides by its pledges. President Hafiz al-Asad has repeatedly said that Syria is ready to respond to any Lebanese request for the withdrawal of Syrian forces from Lebanon after the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon. Syria did not enter Lebanon a conqueror or an invader; it went there at the request of the legitimate Lebanese authorities when Lebanon was not under Israeli occupation and U.S. pressures.

When the Lebanese are united, they will find Syria on their side, extending to them all possible assistance and responding to any request stemming from their national unity and from their interests, which cannot conflict with the interests of Syria and the Arabs. The whole world today knows that Syria is sincere and keeps its promises and that sincerity, credibility, and faithfuiness are the main characteristics of the policy of Syria and its leader President Hafiz al-Asad.

In dealing with Syria and the Arabs, the U.S. Administration has not proved its sincerity or credibility. The U.S. President is the one who broke the promise and did not carry out the pledge. In June 1982, through his personal envoy Philip Habib, he pledged that Israel would withdraw its forces from Lebanon as soon as Syria agreed to a cease-fire. One year and several months have passed since this U.S. presidential pledge and the U.S. President has not yet fulfilled his pledge. Those who live in glass houses should not throw stones.

Palestine Broadcast on Fatah Rightists' Plans

JN121935 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Palestine Broadcast: From the "On the Events" Program]

[Text] Since the majority of Fatah's cadres and combat forces have joined the uprising, the rightist leaders in the movement are seeking to compensate for the loss of the base on which they once depended. They are using several methods for this. First, they are seeking the protection of rightist, reactionary non- Palestinians. They are also betting on these elements in an attempt to continue the logic of internecine fighting, even though our people have unanimously rejected that method of fighting. Second, they asked the Government of Jordan to send Badr Forces, disguised in civilian clothing, through Europe to serve under Yasir 'Arafat. The Badr Forces' officers and soldiers are opposed to this step and reject being made a tool of oppression and internecine fighting. Third, they insist on not recognizing the problem and its Palestinian nature. They are trying to Arabize this crisis, and they are seeking the assistance of some regimes in order to subdue the will of the masses and the fighters in the Palestinian arena. Fourth, the rightist leaders are seeking to commit terrorist and criminal actions, such as the Al-Baddawi incident, in order to create angry reactions and certain circumstances that might serve the basic plans worked out by the rightist leaders.

However, these methods and other similar methods used by the deviationist rightist mentality will never be able to change the course of the great revolutionary development in the Palestinian arena, a development that will impose great qualitative changes in that arena. The rightist elements should recognize this reality instead of running against the movement of history.

Reagan Statement on Lebanon Criticized

JN121623 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] President Reagan said in his weekly press statement that the United States' presence in Lebanon is aimed at confronting communist expansion, and that the United States is determined to maintain a permanent military presence in the Middle East in order to stop that expansion and secure the flow of oil to Western Europe and Japan. The U.S. President not only gave these justifications for U.S. military involvement in Lebanon, but also leveled accusations against Syria and spread false information about Syria's position. He considers the presence of missiles in Syria a threat to Israel and questioned Syria's peace intentions because, as he put it, Syria depends on Soviet weapons and has retreated from past promises that it would withdraw its forces from Lebanon.

President Reagan's false and biased statements contain a number of points that we should consider. Oil flows from the Arab states to consumers in Western Europe and Japan without any obstacles, and there is no threat to these oil imports because both the producers and consumers have mutual interests in the oil flowing according to appropriate conditions. If there is any threat to the flow of oil in either the short or long run, it is from U.S. policy — military adventures, intentions to impose its will and hegemony over the region, unlimited support for Israel's aggression against the Arab states, and defiance of the international community. When Reagan reminds the Americans of the oil crisis in 1974, he should also remember that this crisis resulted in imaginary gains for the United States and ended Europe's independence from the United States.

President Reagan should also remember that Israel is the party that pushed the Arabs to use the oil weapon in order to confront the Israeli aggression against the Arabs and the Israeli occupation of Arab land. Had it not been for U.S. economic, military, and political assistance, Israel would not have carried out its aggressive wars and would not have practiced the policy of annexation, occupation, and war crimes. Therefore, U.S. policy poses a threat to the flow of oil from the Middle East as a result of U.S.-Israeli cooperation against the aspirations and legitimate rights of the region's peoples. Regarding Soviet weapons, the United States and other European countries have supplied Israel with so many weapons that it has become the most armed state in the region. The U.S. rulers also admit that Israel has military superiority over all the Arab states and is able to commit aggression thousands of kilometers from Israel. The Iraq nuclear reactor is an example. Israel also commits aggressions and violates international law. Those who extended aid to Israel are responsible for Israeli aggressions and wars and for the volatile situation in the region.

On the other hand, Syria is threatened by Israel and its protector, the United States. Syria has the right to defend itself, its citizens, its land, and its rights. It also has the right to regain its occupied land. UN charters and international law are with Syria, not with Reagan. Those who arm in order to defend themselves are not like those who arm in order to commit aggression and to annex other people's lands.

Reagan's reference to Syria's peace intentions discloses the biased U.S. position and the U.S. officials' ignorance. Syria calls for a lasting, comprehensive, and just peace based on UN resolutions. Furthermore, Syria cooperates with the United Nations and with every constructive effort to reach peace. Stalemate in the region is due to U.S.-Israeli rejection of the UN resolutions and the two conditions of peace: the Israeli withdrawal from all of the occupied Arab territories and the recognition of Palestinian national rights. The international community has the right to ask: How long will the United States remain an obstacle to peace in the Middle East? We should say that Syria's strength will not be used to occupy other people's lands and usurp other people's rights. Syria's strength will help create the appropriate atmosphere for a real settlement based on UN resolutions.

President Reagan's allegations that the United States is confronting communist and Soviet infiltration is intended for domestic consumption in the United States, where popular opposition to U.S. military involvement in Lebanon is increasing — an involvement that resembles Don Quixote's battles. U.S. missiles were not fired at the Soviets, but at the Lebanese citizens and the Lebanese nationalist forces. The Soviet forces do not clash with the Lebanese or the Americans, but the Lebanese national resistance forces do clash with the Israeli occupation forces.

Israel's occupation of Lebanon is a real one, but the alleged Soviet and communist infiltration is a pretext for U.S. interference in Lebanese affairs and for covering up Israel's occupation of Lebanon. Reagan will never be able to persuade the Arabs to remain silent over the Israeli occupation of their land and to stage a war against an imaginary occupation of their lands.

AL-BA'TH Says U.S. Ready To Use RDF in Gulf

JN130718 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 13 Oct 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Regarding the U.S. military moves in the direction of the Arab Gulf and the Indian Ocean, the Newspaper *Al-Ba'th* writes in its "With the Events" column: It seems that the U.S. Administration has decided it is time to use the RDF in the Arab Gulf region overtly and to impose its full military hegemony over the Indian Ocean region.

It seems that the U.S. Administration has used Iran's announcement that it will close the Strait of Hormuz to navigation -- if the Iraqi regime uses the five French aircraft --as a pretext to order its naval and ground units to leave for the region and reconnoiter the Strait of Hormuz. This U.S. move is not due to Iran's announcement; it is aimed at protecting vital U.S. interests in the Gulf area, especially since the U.S. Administration had previously declared that this area is vital and threatened to use force to occupy the oilfields if its interests are exposed to danger.

Al-Asad Receives Algerian Party Official

JN120702 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 11 Oct 83

[Text] Damascus — Within the framework of the fraternal contacts, coordination, and the exchange of opinions between Syria and Algeria, President Hafiz al-Asad this afternoon received Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, secretary of the Permanent Secretariat of the Algerian National Liberation Front Central Committee. Present at the meeting were Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party; and Salih Boujoumaa, the Algerian ambassador in Damascus.

Messaadia conveyed to the president a message from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid dealing with the developments in the region. The president gave him a reply message.

Talks during the meeting dealt with the general state of affairs in the region, particularly events in Lebanon; the colonialist states' stand on the situation in Lebanon, and their attempts to impose their hegemony on Lebanon and the region by use of force. Both sides' points of view were identical. They also reviewed the developments in the Palestinian arena, underlining Syria and Algeria's desire to see the Palestinian revolution overcome the circumstances it is facing in a way that serves the Palestinian question and further supports its positions.

Official Makes Statement, Departs

JN121703 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, secretary of the permanent secretariat of the Algerian FLN Central Committee, left Damascus this afternoon after a visit to Syria during which he met with President Hafiz al-Asad. He was seen off at Damascus International Airport by Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, a number of regional command members, the Algerian ambassador in Damascus, and the embassy staff.

In a statement to SANA, Messaadia expressed his pleasure over visiting Syria. He said that his visit falls within the framework of consultations and exchanges of opinion between Syrian and Algerian officials on the main issues of the Arab nation, including the need to face the fierce imperialist and Zionist onslaught against the region. He also said: I had the honor of meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad to convey a message to his excellency from his brother President Chadli Bendjedid dealing with the current situation in the region.

Regarding his talks in Damascus, Messaadia also said: I have held talks with Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Ba'th Party, and a number of officials in Syria in order to exchange views on developments in the Lebanese arena, to review the events that are taking place in Lebanon, and to discuss a number of international issues of common interest. He added that viewpoints were identical on all of these issues.

UAE Officials Conclude Visit, Depart 12 Oct

JN121925 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT12 Oct 83

[Text] Ahmad Khalifah as-Suwaydi, the UAE president's representative, and Rashid al-'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, left Damacus this evening after a visit to Syria.

Seeing them off at Damascus International Airport were 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Misbah ad-Dalati, director of protocol at the Foreign Ministry; Salim Rashid al-Maqrubi, the UAE ambassador in Damascus, and the embassy staff.

Foreign Minister Returns From UN Meetings

JN081258 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 8 Oct 83

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned to Damascus this morning from New York after attending part of the UN General Assembly's meetings and delivering Syria's speech at the General Assembly. He also held several meetings with a number of the foreign ministers of the Arab, friendly, and foreign countries who are participating in the 38th UN session.

Aridor Cancels U.S. Trip Due to Economy
TA121612 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] The finance minister has again canceled his trip to Washington, this time because of the economic situation. Minister Aridor was scheduled to depart for the United States this evening to confer with Secretary of State George Shultz. Last week the finance minister postponed his visit because of Yitzhaq Shamir's intention to present his Cabinet to the Knesset.

Our correspondent has learned that the director general of the Finance Ministry will leave for Washington this week to discuss with administration representatives the conditions for the aid to Israel.

'Minor Changes' Planned in Premier's Office
TA121051 Tel Aviv Yedi'ot Aharonot in Hebrew 12 Oct 83 p 3

[Report by Arye Tzimuqi]

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir yesterday held a number of personal talks with senior officials in the prime minister's office, among them General Director Matityahu Shmuelevitz, Adviser on Communications and Foreign Press Affairs Uri Porat, Bureau Director Yehi'el Qadishay, Military Secretary 'Azri'el Nevo and Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor and asked them to continue in their posts, which they agreed to do.

It seems that only minor changes will occur in the composition of this office and that the prime minister will bring in a few personal aides who worked with him at the Foreign Ministry.

Shamir will continue to hold the post of foreign minister. However, he intends to devote most of his time to his duties as prime minister.

It is still not clear whether Menahem Begin will continue to be a member of the Knesset.

Shamir Brings in Adviser
TA130637 Jerusalem The Jerusalem Post in English 13 Oct 83 p 3

[Report by the diplomatic affairs correspondent]

[Excerpt] Yosef Ben-Aharon, who served as Yitzhaq Shamir's political aide at the Foreign Ministry, has moved with Shamir to the prime minister's office. His tasks there will mainly concern foreign policy.

Ben-Aharon's appointment is the first change that Shamir has instituted in the premier's bureau. Ex-Premier Menachem Begin did not have a foreign policy adviser.

Weizman, Arens Discuss Political, Security Issues
TA121943 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Our party affairs correspondent Nisim Mish'al has learned that today 'Ezer Weizman conferred with Defense Minister Moshe Arens and discussed political and security issues. The possibility that Mr Weizman would again receive a senior government post was also discussed. Our correspondent points out that the meeting between Weizman and Arens was coordinated before the report on the contacts to appoint Weizman finance minister.

The prime minister's adviser on communication and foreign press affairs, Uri Porat, said this evening that Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has no intention of introducing changes in his Cabinet in the near future. Our correspondent says, nonetheless, that Mr Shamir is not ruling out the possibility of a personnel reshuffle after the initial period of settling in is over.

Proposal To Link Dollar to Economy Revealed
TA130847 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 13 Oct 83

[Text] The Finance Ministry is proposing to link the whole economy to the U.S. dollar. The Finance Ministry spokesman confirmed the main points published this morning in *Yedi'ot Aharonot* on this issue.

The Finance Ministry announcement said that the plan to link the economy to the dollar had been worked out by the ministry, the Bank of Israel, and Israeli and foreign economists for more than 6 months and was kept secret.

The treasury said the plan has three phases and may solve the problems of the balance of payments, inflation, and the budget. The budget cuts demanded by Minister Aridor were the first necessary step in this plan, but the other phases could not be publicized. The big devaluation of 2 days ago was an important part of the plan's second phase. The linking of the economy to the dollar is the third phase, which should be completed shortly, at the same time that budget cuts are completed.

The finance minister will present the plan's details at the Cabinet's next session. The plan's main points were revealed to the former prime minister and the present prime minister. The Treasury announcement goes on to say that fulfilling the plan is a must and is subject to the Cabinet's decision.

The report published this morning in *Yedi'ot Aharonot* said that, according to the Treasury plan, salaries will be linked to and quoted in dollars. The state budget will also be quoted in dollars, and checking accounts in this currency will be authorized. The last phase of the plan, according to the paper's report, is that in addition to the shekel the dollar will become legal tender in thecountry. The treasury is also planning steep budget cuts, which might increase unemployment to 7 percent.

Yedi'ot Aharonot says the United States favors the Finance Ministry plan.

Histadrut Opposes Cost-of-Living Reduction

TA121227 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] The Histadrut will not agree to the emasculation of the cost-of-living wage increment, Histadrut Secretary General Yeroham Meshel told our correspondent Moshe Nestelbaum. Meshel said that the Histadrut is unwilling to have prices rise uncontrolled and to have only the workers hurt while everyone else gets rich. However, he emphasized, if the country implements an economic program, the worker will make his contribution too.

Labor Party Scorns New Economic Plan

TA131044 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0934 GMT 13 Oct 83

[Text] The Labor Reaction Team says that the treasury dollarization plan reveals the ultimate stupidity and wantonness of the Likud government. If it were not the month of October, one might have believed that today is April Fool's Day. The real economic problems of Israel will not be solved by moonstruck trickery or by replacement of one minister with another. Only changing the government and the whole policy might save Israel from disaster.

Peace Now Movement Reacts to New Government

TA101935 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 10 Oct 83

[Text] The Peace Now Movement has said woe to the State of Israel if, as Yitzhaq Shamir said, the new government really will be a continuation government. A cable the movement sent to Yitzhaq Shamir said that this will be a continuation of the insane, destructive race of investments in the territories which are blocking the chances for peace.

Peace Now calls for a stop to beating the public with the heavy hammers of the government's gambles in Lebanon, in economics, and in the territories.

MK Druckman Gains One-Man Faction Status

TA101708 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 10 Sep 83

[Text] The Knesset House Committee has endorsed the request by MK Hayim Druckman and has unanimously granted him the status of a single Knesset member [a one-man faction]. Druckman will not receive allocations according to the parties financing law but will be able to make proposals to the Knesset agenda.

Our correspondent Tzvi Yisre'eli has learned that the Likud promised him membership in the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

Haddad Holds Meeting With Chief of Staff Levi

TA121048 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1030 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] The commander of the militias in southern Lebanon, Major Sa'd Haddad, will soon resume full activity. This was stated by his associates to our correspondent in the north, Menahem Horowitz. The chief of staff, Lieutenant General Moshe Levi, met Maj Haddad in the last 24 hours at his home in Marj 'Uyun, and the two discussed current affairs. Our correspondent notes that another camp of Haddad's, the fourteenth, was recently established in southern Lebanon.

Phalange Reportedly To Join Haddad Forces

TA121054 Tel Aviv Davar in Hebrew 12 Oct 83 p 1

[Report by Arab affairs correspondent Dan Avidan]

[Text] The Lebanese Forces, that is, the Phalange, decided recently to join their forces in southern Lebanon to Major Haddad's forces. The *Davar* correspondent learned this from Christian sources in Beirut.

This decision reflects the weakened position in which the Phalange found themselves following their defeat in the Ash-Shuf and the takeover of this area by the Druze. Some 100 Phalangists were killed and 600 wounded in the Ash-Shuf fighting. Their defeat accelerated the process of diminishing their status as a military and deterrent element in the Lebanese framework.

Incorporating the Phalange fighters to the Haddad men might then restore their military status and maybe even enable the Phalange to become an influential element in southern Lebanon following Haddad's exit from the arena because of his illness.

Intelligence Chief Comments On New Syrian Missiles

TA121431 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] The head of the IDF intelligence branch, Major General Ehud Baraq, has said the SS-21 missiles the Syrian Army has received from the Soviet Union increase Syria's capability to hit settlements in the heart of Israel. Maj Gen Baraq pointed out that despite the fact that the Syrian Army had become stronger, it already had long-range missiles with the same range as the SS-21 missiles. He emphasized that Israel was examining the issue very carefully.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the head of the IDF intelligence branch disclosed that Israel had informed the Government of Lebanon and the Druze in the Ash-Shuf hills that it would act against the terrorists that had infiltrated the regions evacuated by the IDF using the method and date it chooses.

Knesset Member On Druze, Shi'ites in Haddad's Militia
TA121442 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Knesset Member Amnon Lynn, who is a member of the Knesset subcommittee for Lebanese affairs, has said that hundreds of Christian, Shi'ite, and Druze citizens have recently joined the militia that is active in southern Lebanon in cooperation with Sa'd Haddad's personnel. He said Israel welcomed this, but, in his opinion, Israel should not rely only on Major Sa'd Haddad himself, but should foster his militia. He told our correspondent Gabi Zohar that if the discussions regarding the national reconciliation conference succeed and a government inclined toward Syria is established in Beirut, the situation of the militia in southern Lebanon will become a lot worse.

Defense Establishment Helping S. Lebanese Shi'ites
TA130945 Tel Aviv Yoman Hashavu'a in Hebrew 13 Oct 83 p 9

[Report by Natan Ro'i]

[Text] The defense establishment is trying to strengthen the Shi'ite group in southern Lebanon. Our correspondent has learned from Israeli security elements that Israel is trying to help the Lebanese minorities reach the point where they will be able to defend themselves. Then Israel will leave Lebanon.

Israel had earlier attempted to bolster the Shi'ite group in southern Lebanon, but ultimately the die was cast in favor of Haddad's forces in the Christian enclave.

U.S. Funding of Jordanian Force Reported
TA130641 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 13 Oct 83

[Text] The President of the United States decided a few months ago to establish a Jordanian force funded and supported by the United States. The force will be trained to carry out missions in the Persian Gulf area. The substance of the decision was kept secret and first details were learned by our correspondent in Washington Razi Barqay.

[Begin recording] President Reagan wishes to hitch the pro-Western Arab countries to his wagon. Thus he organized the joint military exercise with Egypt, and now it transpires that he is asking for Jordanian help in guarding U.S. interests in the Persian Gulf.

American sources told us that the White House decided, therefore, to organize a Jordanian commando force which will be sent, as needed, to carry out military assignments in the Arab oil countries if and when the United States feels that the regular funneling of oil from the gulf to Europe and Japan is in danger.

The administration presented one of the congressional committees with a request for a special budget to establish the Jordanian unit, providing funds for arming it with sophisticated U.S. arms and training its personnel in commando fighting. A subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee is supposed to decide on this issue. Everything, as stated, took place in secret discussions between the White House and Capitol Hill. [end recording]

Our correspondent adds that one of the obstacles on the road to establishing this force is the question of command. Jordan insists that the force be under Jordanian command, while the United States is asking to be given the opportunity of activating the force in the hour of need. While this will be coordinated with Jordan, the U.S. Army will have control.

ALGERIA

Bendjedid, Others See Off UAE President

LD121347 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Excerpt] The visit of His Royal Highness Zayid ibn Shaykh Sultan al-Nuhayyan to Algeria ended today. He was seen off at Houari Boumediene International Airport by Brother Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and party secretary general, who was accompanied by the brother members of the Political Bureau, Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, prime minister; Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, foreign minister; Boualem Daki, justice minister; senior officials, and members of the diplomatic corps accredited to Algeria.

Legal Accord Signed

LD122218 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Excerpt] This afternoon President Chadli Bendjedid received a message of thanks from the president of the United Arab Emirates in which Zayid ibn Sultan Shaykh al Nuhayyan expresses his total satisfaction with the positive results of the talks between the two countries. It is to be noted that official talks between the two heads of state ended this morning. Also this morning a legal agreement was signed between Algeria and the United Arab Emirates by the justice ministers of the two countries. This agreement mentions in particular the enlargement of bilateral cooperation in this domain and especially the exchange of legal documents, the execution of judgments pronounced by the courts, jurisdiction in the two countries, and the exchange of information on texts of law and judgments.

Prime Minister Mauroy Grants Press Conference

LD121202 Algiers APS in English 1038 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Algiers, 12 -10-83 (APS) — Mr Pierre Mauroy, French prime minister, who was on an official visit in Algeria since Sunday on the invitation of Mr Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, Politbureau member and prime minister, left Algiers yesterday on Tuesday. In the morning, the French prime minister was received by President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and F.L.N. Party secretary general, before initialing, with Mr Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, the official report of the Algero-French talks. Mr Pierre Mauroy, French prime minister, granted a press conference following his official visit.

In his talks with the national and the international press, the head of the French Government, who recalled the particular context of his first visit in Algeria, underlined the big lines of the discussions and the negotiations started by the two delegations, the importance of the examined documents and the [words indistinct] out and the measures defined to be qualified as exemplary, and "resolutely turned towards the future," the cooperation between the two countries, a cooperation which he precised must enable a great country of the south and a great country of the north to overcome together the present economic crisis and succeed in the industrial and technological mutation which we are witnessing.

The French prime minister [words indistinct] the summary of the documents examined during the political talks between the Algerian and the French delegations or by the five working [as received] put in place: transport, financial problems, problems linked to immigration, prospects for future as well as document of housing: industrial and [words indistinct]

In the field of transport, Mr Mauroy said: Seven billion of francs of the contract were concluded, during the latest ten months. They are being carried out and concerns the first phase of Algiers underground, the railway material and the building of a new line of railway road and finally the building of the National School of the Algerian Civilian Navigation.

As concerns the sectorial accords, the French prime minister added, a total accord deals with the construction of 60,000 inhabitations and the present portion which is at present being implemented represents an amount of 18 billion francs of the contract. As concerns the "agro food" Mr Mauroy said, progress remain to be made, whereas as concerns the industrial cooperation France made proposals as concerns projects to study in the mid and long term as concerns information and telecommunications.

"In the short run prospects, we evoked the problem of the automobile, especially the creation of a complex of vehicles of tourism in Algeria," he added, and he expressed satisfaction with the cooperation existing between the two countries for the manufacturing of the utilitary vehicles.

Dealing with the questions linked to emigration and to the situation of the persons, the French prime minister announced the signing of an accord on the military service, the "service accomplished in one of the countries is valid for the other one and exempt in the other country. It is applicable for all the nationals of one of the two countries which will ask for it whatever the moment when this request occurs,? Mr Mauroy explained during this visit. The French prime minister went on, "we also informed the Algerian Government about the situation of the Algerian community in France and the measures taken as concerns immigration." This community represents 19 percent of the foreigners living in France and beneficiate from 33 percent of the efforts of formation." [sentence as received] The French prime minister said that an important financial effort is already engaged to renew some headquarters where the immigrant population is concentrated.

As concerns the transfer of salaries and the French goods in Algeria, Mr Mauroy underlined that for the first point, an accord of reciprocity between the two governments overcame the difficulties. Mr Mauroy declared that during the audience that President Chadli Bendjedid granted to him, he had the opportunity to carry on discussions of the tenth latest September over problems linked to Chad, Lebanon, Western Sahara, to the Iran-Iraq conflict,and some present problems such as disarmament, the East-West relations, the Vittel meeting, etc.... Mr Mauroy said he informed the president of the republic of the position of France over some international questions.

Algeria, PRC Sign Cultural Agreement in Beijing
LD121122 Algiers APS in English 1015 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Beijing, 12-10-83 (APS) — A cultural agreement was signed here yesterday to boost cultural relations between Algeria and China. Visiting Culture Minister Abdelmadjid Mezian who started an official visit to China a day ago co-signed the agreement with his Chinese counterpart. The two ministers inaugurated an exposition of Algerian arts in Beijing which will be open to the public for a week long.

Nicaraguan Delegation Arrives in Algiers
FL122110 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1902 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of Nicaragua's Junta of the Provisional Government of National Reconstruction, arrived in Algiers today accompanied by a high-level delegation. At the Houari Boumedienne Airport, the Sandinist leader was welcomed by Algerian Prime Minister Mohamed Abdelghani and other leaders of Algeria's National Liberation Front and government. We wish to convey warm greetings from the Sandinist front and Nicaraguan Government to the Algerian party, government, and people, Ramirez Mercado stated to the press on arrival in Algiers. This visit, he stressed, is aimed at strengthening still more the excellent relations existing between Nicaragua and Algeria.

Masaadia Returns From Talks in Damascus
LD130947 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Mohamed Cherif Masaadia, member of the Political Bureau and officer in charge of the Permanent Secretariat of the FLN Party Central Committee, returned yesterday evening [12 Oct] to Algiers from Damascus where he delivered a message from President Chadli Benjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the party, to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, who on the occasion reviewed with the officer in charge of the Permanent Secretariat the latest developments in the area. Before leaving Damascus, Brother Masaadia stated that his visit came within the framework of holding consultations and exchanging viewpoints between officials in both countries concerning all the basic issues of the Arab nation and confronting the ferocious imperialist and Zionist onslaught on the area.

During the visit, the official of the Permanent Secretariat had been quite active. He held talks with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign affairs minister, and with a number of the leaders of the Syrian Arab party.

He also received Khalid al-Fahum, the PNC speaker, and Dr George Habash, the secretary general of the PFLP, Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the DFLP [Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine] and Abu 'Ammar, member of the Central Committee of the Fatah movement. The keen desire that the Palestinian revolution should get over the situation through which it is passing in a manner that serves the Palestinian issue had been the center of the conversation which took place during these meetings. Brother Masaadia also held talks with 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, the assistant secretary general of the Syrian Arab Ba'th party, and they dealt with ways to strengthen and expand the bilateral relations between the two parties.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Mauritanian President
LD121502 Tripoli JANA in English 1427 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 6, Oct JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution yesterday received Lt Colonel Mohamad Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the Military Committee of National Salvation and president of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

Bureau on French Citizens' 'Delayed' Departure
LD122124 Kuwait KUNA in English 1832 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Paris, Oct 12 (KUNA) — The Libyan People's Bureau in Paris said Wednesday the departure of the 37 French citizens from Tripoli last Sunday has been "delayed" due to routine identify checking. A communique released by the bureau said that "if the departure of the 37 French citizens from Tripoli has been somewhat delayed, that was mainly due to an administrative decision taken by the revolutionary committees, which are temporarily controlling the airport to enable a better checking of papers and identities." "That is a worldwide practice and it is normal for a foreigner to comply with the rules and regulations of the country he is in and be subject to some administrative measures," it said.

The Libyan People's Bureau denied the "false and malevolent rumours" mentioning that the French citizens might be held hostages by the Libyan authorities. The communique affirmed that the Libyan authorities "have never taken the decision to hold the French citizens hostages, and even less to resort to any kind of blackmail."

It accused the French press of changing "lies into truth" and said that there has been lately a "denigration campaign against Libya orchestrated by the French secret services and carried out by the French media."

MAURITANIA

Haydala Departs for Visit to Libya 11 Oct
AB120750 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Head of State Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and president of the republic, left Nouakchott yesterday for Tripoli on a friendly visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. He is accompanied by an important delegation.

PLO Representative Brings Arafat Letter

AB121605 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Colonel Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, the prime minister and minister of national defense, a while ago received the PLO representative in Nouakchott. The latter, (Abu al-Hissam), stated at the end of the audience that he delivered to the prime minister a letter addressed by Yasir 'Arafat to the chairman of the Military Council for National Salvation and head of state to inform him on the latest developments in the situation in Lebanon and particularly on the plots being hatched against the Palestinian cause.

SUDAN

President Numayri Returns From Saudi Arabia

JN121538 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1405 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Khartoum, 12 Oct (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri arrived here at 1430 today after a successful visit to Saudi Arabia, during which he held fruitful talks with his brother King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and senior Saudi officials. President Numayri was received by First Vice President Staff Major General 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib, Vice President Joseph Lagu, members of the Central Command, ministers, and high-ranking officers of the Armed Forces and police.

People's Assembly Statement on Republic Day

JN121645 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1410 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Khartoum, 12 Oct (SUNA) — The People's Assembly Committee issued a statement today, on the occasion of Republic Day and the first anniversary of integration with Egypt, affirming its loyalty to leader President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, who established the principles of national unity and regional rule and who deepened the nation's faith in freedom, democracy, and Islam. Such achievements created an unprecedented victory in the history of Sudan. The statement said: Our celebration of these two occasions takes place with new factors and genuine values that were established by the May revolution led by President Numayri. It also takes place while we are beginning the correct course of Islam, and while Sudan is taking advanced steps, for the sake of the Sudanese people's interests and welfare, to establish the basis of justice. The statement affirmed that the People's Assembly Committee will continue to support President Numayri because of all the decisions he makes to achieve the healthy Islamic society for which everyone aspires.

TUNISIA

Libya's Al-Humaydi Welcomed to Tunis Celebration

LD130142 Tripoli JANA in English 1852 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Tunis, Muharram 6, Oct 12, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, assistant chief of staff of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, this afternoon arrived in Tunis to participate in the celebrations of the brotherly Tunisian people on the anniversary of expulsion of the French forces from Benzert. At Carthage International Airport, in Tunis, welcoming Al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi were Slaheddine Baly, minister of national defence, and Mongi Kooli, minister delegate to the prime minister, with special duties in administrative reform, and Abdelmajid Karoui, director of protocol, as well as Jamahiriyah's general commissioner in Tunisia.

Meets Prime Minister, Others

LD130159 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamd Mzali on Thursday evening met with Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, assistant chief of the General Staff of the Libyan Armed Forces. Following the meeting, Major al-Humaydi made a statement in which he pointed out that they discussed bilateral relations and the ways of developing and enhancing them to achieve economic integration and rapprochement between the two fraternal peoples.

He added that meetings will continue among the officials of both countries to consolidate Tunisian-Libyan cooperation and develop their joint work and give it the required weight for the good of the two peoples and the Arab citizens of the Greater Arab Maghreb.

He also pointed out that the discussions covered matters of interest affecting the Greater Arab Maghreb's future and ways to speed up its realization as a step along the road to comprehensive Arab unity, and that the Arab world now has a dire need to face up to the Zionist challenges.

In this context, he pointed out that he and Mzali reviewed the situation on the Arab arena, particularly in Lebanon and the aggressions it suffers at the hands of the occupation forces, and the threat to the Arab nation's security and stability represented by the presence of the foreign forces in the Middle East and the Mediterranean.

The meeting took place in the presence of Beji Caid es-Sebsi, Tunisian foreign minister; Slaheddine Baly, defense minister; Mongi Kooli, director of the party and minister attached to the prime minister's office; Minister Mezri Chekir, minister of civil service and administrative reform; and Isma'il Khalil, planning minister; as well as the representatives of the two countries. This evening Mohamed Mzali held a banquet in Carthage, in honor of Major al-Humaydi and his delegation. A number of members of the government, the Political Bureau, and senior Army officers and notables attended.

Mongi Kooli also met with Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi. Following the meeting, Al-Humaydi made a statement in which he said that they discussed fraternal relations between the two countries and ways of developing them, particularly through the exchange of visits by popular organizations.

He pointed out that the visits aim at promoting acquaintance between the two peoples in order to strengthen their sense of commitment to joint action which would bolster relations between the officials.

KENYA

Former Vice President Freed From House Arrest

EA121754 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] The order restricting former Vice President Jaramogi Oginga Odinga to his Kisumu house [imposed in 1982] has been withdrawn. Police authorities in Kisumu confirmed to the KENYA NEWS AGENCY that the restriction was lifted at 1000 this morning. Security personnel posted to his Kisumu residence were also withdrawn.

SOMALIA

President Interviewed on Horn, Mideast Issues

LD091719 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1400 GMT 9 Oct 83

["Somalia: From Samir al-Qaryuti" — KUNA headline]

[Excerpts] Rome, 9 Oct [KUNA] — President Siad Mohamed Barre of Somalia spoke of the economic difficulties facing his country and hindering development there. He praised Arab assistance, particularly assistance from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and other Gulf countries. He described Somali-Kuwaiti relations as very good. President Barre, in an interview with KUNA here today touched upon the main Somali internal difficulties and a number of Arab and international issues. The Somali president made a 4-day working visit to the Italian capital during which he met with senior Italian officials and the Italian president. He left for Cairo today.

President Barre described Somali-Kuwaiti relations as good and said "our relations with our Kuwaiti brothers are very good." He then referred to the Arab assistance to his country, particularly assistance from Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries including Kuwait, and said: "There is none better than the fraternal Arab countries in the field of assistance to Somalia at this stage. Although this Arab assistance is not at the required level — we were expecting more than what has been offered to us up until now — I repeat: There is none better than the Arab countries in the field of assistance to us."

Regarding the conflict between Somalia and Ethiopia and the dangerous situation in the Horn of Africa, President Barre said: "Somali-Ethiopian relations are today passing through a very grave stage despite the fact that some countries are attempting to portray this problem at a level lower than it deserves. In my opinion the Ethiopian-Somali problem is no less dangerous than the Mideast problem is to the Arab world; the problem of the Horn of Africa is no less dangerous than the Mideast problem." He went on to say: "We cannot see any possible solution to this problem in the forseeable future. Somalia has tried more than once to follow the path of understanding with Ethiopia; however, Ethiopia's continuous answer is rejection followed by occupation of Somali territory as happened last year. We as Arabs have offered all our efforts to search for a solution to this problem, and the issue in my opinion is not between Somalia and Ethiopia. It has now become an international issue. There are superpowers which exacerbate the problem and support Ethiopia even though it is occupying Somali territory. As you know there were Somali areas not originally under Ethiopian colonialism; however, Ethiopia occupied these territories last year. These Somali lands are still under occupation and we have tried to reach an understanding on them but all our efforts were in vain. Ethiopia insists on its stance and I see no solution on the horizon because Ethiopia is unprepared to solve the problem by peaceful means. It rather, depends on its power and on the support of a superpower such as the Soviet Union."

Regarding the U.S. presence in the area and the probability of a political confrontation between the two superpowers due to an aggravation of the situation in the international arena, President Barre said: "We don't believe that any confrontation between the two superpowers could occur in the Horn of Africa because this confrontation is not in their interests. The superpowers usually play with the destinies of weak nations, and they try to stir up problems between the peoples of the area in order to serve their own interests. The confrontation between the two giants might happen if the problem of the Horn of Africa with its consequences drew nearer to the Gulf area; this would directly infringe upon the West's and U.S interests and then a true confrontation might occur."

Regarding the internal opposition in Somalia, President Barre said: "There is no opposition in the sense of opposition inside Somalia but there are groups and elements helping Ethiopia in its plan. Some of these elements were in the Somalia Army and fled abroad. As the Ethiopian Army has little knowledge of the nature of Somali territory, these elements are leading the Ethiopian Army in its operations against Somalia. Thus, opposition is nonexistent, but there are elements who fled to Ethiopia. There are no internal problems in the way some people have described; there are problems similar to the problems existing in the rest of the countries of the world."

President Barre denied that Somalia had granted the United States a large military base in Barbara and said: "We have offered the United States facilities similar to the facilities in the other Arab Gulf countries, and as there is dealing, for example, between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and others with the United States, Somalia also has relations and is dealing with the United States of America."

Regarding the Arab-Zionist conflict, Lebanon, and the Palestinian question, President Barre said: "First of all fighting between the Lebanese themselves should be stopped and the Lebanese problems must be solved quickly by casting away all differences and personal and religious contradictions and by working to solve the causes of the internal Lebanese problem. Arab countries should assist Lebanon in finding an internal solution to its problems and after that, the Palestinian problem should be resolved."

What are your relations with the Palestinian revolution? President Barre replied: "The Democratic Republic of Somalia was among the first countries that recognized the PLO. At present the organization has an office in the Somali capital enjoying the same diplomatic privileges as other Arab embassies. Regarding the differences within the Palestinian movement, I would say the

fighting among the Palestinians themselves should stop because this fighting under the present circumstances contradicts the aim of the Palestinians in liberating their land. The Palestinians should agree among themselves. They know, at the same time, that there are external forces interfering in their affairs so that the conflict among themselves continues and that the problem is foreign interference — foreign interference even by some Arab quarters is the problem. What is required now from Arab countries is to help the Palestinians to overcome this predicament."

Regarding the Iranian-Iraqi war, President Barre said: "The war between Iraq and Iran is a difficult problem indeed. It directly affects Somalia because this war is witnessing the fighting of Muslim brothers among themselves. We call for a stop to this war. Tthe Islamic world ought to contribute as a whole in finding a peaceful solution to this war. We call for, as we have done at the At-Ta'if conference, a peaceful solution to this problem."

UGANDA

President Obote Commissions Satellite Station

EA082132 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1050 GMT 8 Oct 83

[Speech by President Milton Obote at commissioning of satellite station in Mukono — live]

[Excerpt] [Passage indistinct] Fellow citizens, since the elections in 1980, the government has invested considerable sums of money in the posts and telecommunications subsector of the economy. We inherited little from the former East African Posts and Telecommunications Corporation. Between 1971 up to the time of elections in 1980 there were no investments in the posts and telecommunications. Your government is committed not only to rehabilitate but also to establish Uganda's own posts and telecommunications system. [Words indistinct] The government has also invested 4.2 (?billion) shillings in telephone exchanges and [word indistinct] for Kampala and its surroundings which include Mukono. [applause] This investment will rehabilitate telephone lines in Kampala and expand them by an additional 30,000 lines. Makerere area will have its own modern automatic exchange with 5,000 lines. [applause] Mukono will have a modern electronic exchange of some 600 lines. [applause]

There are other major programs of government investments in telecommunications. Another 6.6 billion shillings is to be invested in modern automatic exchanges for Masaka and Mbarara with 2,000 lines each. [applause]

Projects of a similar kind for the eastern and northern regions and part of the west have been drawn up and are included in the revised recovery program. The target, fellow citizens, of the government is to have at least three telephones per 100 Ugandans by 1988. [applause] It is calculated that in most parts of Africa there is only one telephone per 100 people. (?We now want) three per 100 people.

Vice President Refutes Massacre Charge

EA131008 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Vice President Paulo Muwanga has categorically refuted a claim made by the leader of the Democratic Party [DP], Mr Ssemogerere, that more than 1,000 supporters of his party were killed recently. The vice president, who was speaking at a press conference with a team of visiting journalists from West Germany, noted that it is not the first time that the DP leadership has made such wild allegations. He explained that people have lost their lives in a number of incidents but (?were not confined) to one particular party. He added that the number of people killed which was given by Dr Ssemogerere is quite astronomical.

The vice president affirmed that the government will continue to uphold seriously all the tenets that pertain to the dignity of man, adding that there are no violations of human rights in the country. He briefed the journalists on the plight of the displaced people in Lumero District, and described the situation as a (?consequence) of human madness. Mr Muwanga regretted that it is unfortunate that after a (?serious) war of liberation, some Ugandans again took up arms and went to the bush. He, however, assured the journalists that the government has started a resettlement exercise for the displaced people, and that soon their plight will be alleviated.

Commenting on the composition of the UNLA [Uganda National Liberation Army], the vice president told the journalists that the government is building a national and disciplined army which serves the interests of all Ugandans regardless of their political party affiliations.

Kampala Cites Al-Qadhdhafi Message to Obote

EA121146 Kampala Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] The leader of the SPLAJ [Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah], Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, has expressed the call for improved relations between Uganda and his country. In a congratulatory message to President Obote on the occasion of the 21st anniversary of Uganda's independence, Col al-Qadhdhafi expressed his and Libya's sincere wishes for Dr Obote's good health and a (?prosperous) and shiny future for the people of Uganda. We hope, he said, that in the years to come our fraternal relations can be further enhanced and solidified for the sake of united Africa.

BURUNDI

Party Leader Corrects TASS Report on Interview

AB191640 Dakar PANA in French 1405 GMT 10 Oct 83

[Text] Bujumbura, 10 Oct (ABP-BURUNDI PANA) — A TASS news agency dispatch dated 30 September, under the heading "Emile Mworoha Declaration," reported an interview that TASS news agency journalists had with Mr Mworoha, the secretary general of Burundi's National Unity and Progress Party [UPRONP] and president of the National Assembly of Burundi.

Mr Mworoha identified passages and statements in the TASS dispatch which he did not recognize as being his own, either in content or in structure.

During the interview, the UPRONP party secretary general indicated that Burundi pursues a policy of peace and supports all peace positions no matter from where they come, adding that Burundi supports everything that strengthens peace.

However, he denied having said that "Burundi fully supports the new Soviet peace proposals aimed at strengthening the peace and security of the peoples, stopping the arms race, and preventing a nuclear catastrophy," as TASS said.

In addition, Mr Mworoha believes that space denuclearization is a proposal that Burundi supports, but he did not say that "recently, the USSR made a series of constructive proposals which are extremely important for the destiny of mankind, especially concerning the ban on the deployment of nuclear weapons," as TASS stressed.

On the situation in Chad and central Africa, Mr Mworoha replied that the Chadian problem must be resolved by the Chadians themselves and through negotiations, adding that foreign interference should cease.

But TASS deformed Mr Mworoha's statement, stressing that "the situation in Chad is a source of particular concern and that the vulgar foreign interference in the affairs of this central African state is the cause of the tension in this region." Mr Mworoha denied having uttered these sentences.

Concerning cooperation between Burundi and USSR, Mr Mworoha said that Burundi has long enjoyed good cooperation with the USSR and there are regular exchanges of government and party delegations.

He furthermore said that in Burundi there are Soviet doctors in the hospitals, Soviet lecturers in the institutes and at the university, and the USSR assists cadres training in the country. The TASS dispatch said further that Soviet doctors courageously carry out their professional duties under difficult conditions and have treated thousands of Burundian citizens, which Mr Mworoha denies having said.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

AFP on Attempts To Relieve Budget Deficit

AB090945 Paris AFP in English 0718 GMT 9 Oct 83

[By Jean-Eudes Barbier]

[Text] Bangui, Oct 9 (AFP) — The military government in the Central African Republic is still experiencing the greatest difficulties in reducing the chronic budget deficit and reviving the national economy, more than two years after taking power. The budget deficit for the current financial year is expected to nudge 25 million dollars, considerably more than the already pessimistic plans for around 110 million in expenditure and only 90 million in revenue.

France, the former colonial power, has contributed around 12 million dollars towards cutting the deficit, out of an overall aid figure this year of 30 million. Some of the remaining shortfall should be met by the International Monetary Fund, but the usual tough conditions attached to the IMF loans apply. Economy and Finance Minister General Sylvestre Bangui is due to visit Washington shortly to negotiate continued aid from the IMF, which has made only 1.5 million dollars available since the beginning of the year.

Faced with bankruptcy, the military regime, headed by General Andre Kolingba, has taken some steps to improve the economic situation, notably by cracking down on the civil service, whose 23,000 employees take more than 90 per cent of the national revenue in salaries alone. The government intends tackling absenteeism in public companies, corruption, fraud and tax evasion. An authoritative source calculated that "lack of civic spirit" among Centrafricans had lost the state 1.8 million dollars so far this year under these various headings.

The persistent weakness of the country's economic activity offers absolutely no encouragement to outside investment of a general nature. But there have been increased contributions from major bodies such as the World Bank and the European Investment Bank to some large-scale, agricultural projects and to schemes to improve infrastructures. Over the coming three years they include extensions to cotton growing (17.5 million dollars), the textile industry (11 million) and telecommunications (six million). The twin aims are to cut the budget deficit and provide better scope for investment. Maximum returns from Central African Republic's natural potential are seen as the immediate target. Thus cotton, the chief agricultural resource, has shown "encouraging" signs, with a crop of more than 28,000 tons last season compared with 17,000 tons the previous year. But the viability threshold for the crop is some 40,000 tons, and officials are well aware how far away the country still is from the 60,000 ton harvests obtained in the early 1970's.

Tropical timber is another important foreign exchange earner, but exports are in constant decline. Coffee recorded an "excellent" 18,000 tons in 1982-83, but the forthcoming season's crop is expected to be a "catastrophic" 5,500 tons because of drought

in recent months. In fact, the return on farming and pastoral activities in Central African Republic, which engage 80 per cent of the working population, remains low at around 30 per cent of the gross domestic product.

Diamonds are theoretically another major source of foreign exchange, but the government is unable to control the gem trade here — some 60 per cent of exports are illicit. In addition, official figures for output keep dropping. It is estimated that if only the government could exert control over up to 80 per cent of diamond outlets, it would be able to make both ends of the annual budget meet.

The authorities here are up against some frightful obstacles, which look like hampering development severely for a long time. The country is landlocked, the administration is dilapidated, the road network (there is no railway) is in poor repair, and the public debt is relatively high at 225 million dollars. Townspeople are very heavily taxed and increasingly lack incentive. Additionally, drought this year has deprived the state coffers of more than 2.5 million dollars.

With a population of 2.8 million inhabitants and an area of 622,984 square kilometres, the Central African Republic is assuredly one of Africa's most badly endowed states. It amply deserves its United Nations classification among the world's least developed countries.

CHAD

Bardai Urges French Withdrawal, OAU Solution

LD101339 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 9 Oct 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Good evening. At a time when the international public opinion, bored with the Chadian conflict, insistently appeals for a negotiated solution to the Chadian tragedy, when at Vittel a unanimous opinion was reached that a peaceful solution must be found to settle the Chadian civil war by the Chadians themselves and within the framework of the OAU, the French prime minister has just made a statement at the French National Assembly which, to say the least, is both ill-timed and unfortunate.

According to Pierre Mauroy, any new advance of Libyan forces south will be met by a French military response. What can be the meaning of this new little sentence? Should it be linked with the meagerness of the Vittel France-Africa summit and, to be more precise, with the failure to legitimize Hissein Habre and with the legalization of the French military presence in Chad?

By evoking a phantasmic Libyan military action in Chad, has the tenant of Matignon [Palace, the seat of French premiers] completely written off the National Liberation Army? Or perhaps he has given a new brief to the French contingent.

When one strips the abovementioned passage of Pierre Mauroy's speech of its [word indistinct] cover one will see a clear French intention to bar the road to Ndjamena to Goukouni's National Liberation Army or to oppose its activity in the central and southern part of the country; and as everybody knows the revolutionary forces of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] are ever more active in those regions.

If this is so, is Mr Pierre Mauroy, contrary to all the previous statements by French leaders on the French military role in Chad, announcing in a disguised form the readiness of the French occupational forces to replace completely the gang of Hissein Habre's puppets? If this is the case, has France modified the brief given to its forces, hitherto called deterrent force, changing it to a counterattacking force?

Indeed, the Socialist France of Mitterrand, already indirectly involved in the Chadian civil war, continues to be attracted by the U.S. trap and obviously is not far from falling into it. The Soviet agency TASS has rightly written that Paris has not changed its policy in Chad, and it continues to defend Habre's regime. Besides, all the observers agree that the juridical emptiness of the French military presence in Chad has never been as great and as obvious as since the Vittel summit. This being said, if the Elysee would like, despite this, to pull out and save its face it has to play the card of Chadian national reconciliation. This has nothing to do with the idea of integrity, which is just one way of removing the Chadian conflict unjustly from its traditional framework.

However this may be, it is not for anyone to give Chadians lessons about integrity. Priority must be given to settling the internal crisis in Chad which has been going on for 18 years. So please do not let us put the cart before the horse.

In Paris the head of the Popular Bureau of the Libyan Arab Socialist People's Jamahariyah has made things clear: While reaffirming Tripoli's opposition in principle to this conference, he added that its sole merit is its insistence on a negotiated solution to the Chadian conflict. For the Libyan diplomat, Hissein Habre is only the head of a movement and should negotiate with the GUNT instead of trying to get himself recognized as president.

Anyway, the fight of the Chadian people for liberation has found favorable echoes not only in Africa but throughout the Arab world, as is shown by the large amount of space devoted to the Chadian conflict in the columns of the Arab press. As for the Arab-African [words indistinct] broadcast at Paris treated the Chadian affair in the following terms on the eve of the French-African summit.

At this time the French and African heads of state are preparing [as heard] to meet in Vittel in France for their annual meeting, I want to draw their attention, and that of French and international public opinion to three important problems in which France's responsibility is deeply involved. These are the civil war in Chad, that in Lebanon, and the dangerous development of racist ideas against immigrant workers. As far as the situation in Chad is concerned, we must recall that the OAU made the serious decision to send an inter-African force to prepare the overthrow of the GUNT, a serious responsibility which it has given to the FAN. The mission of this inter-African force has never been agreed to nor been the subject of a debate within inter-African organizations. More seriously, the OAU

(?accepted) a decision coming from a half-African conference, thereby ignoring its own former resolutions. In fact, the GUNT is the fruit of a consensus arrived at by all the Chadian political and military forces.

So it is this consensus which has been recognized by the OAU, first in Lagos, then in Freetown, and finally in Nairobi. [Words indistinct] this consensus, Hissein Habre then put himself in a state of rebellion, and the inter-African force which had been sent to defend and strengthen legitimacy began to carry out a task which was quite the opposite to its original mission; that is, to replace the legitimate power of the GUNT by the rebellion led by Hissein Habre, financed and armed by the United States, and backed by their allies in Africa. It was this situation of illegitimacy which was recognized by the conference of the heads of state of France and Africa at their last meeting in Kinshasa. The last OAU summit, in Addis Ababa, fearing to suffer a third failure, backed up the decision of the Franco-African conference, ignoring the profound aspirations of the Chadian people.

So the rejection of the solution imposed by foreign forces, in particular by the United States and its allies in Africa under the benevolent eye of the OAU, was not long in coming: The Chadian people, under the direction of the GUNT, organized resistance and at the moment when they were about to triumph over the puppet regime of Habre, all the international reactionary forces flew to help the latter and dragged France in with them, which alone has in Chad today more than 3,000 men and considerable military equipment, planes, missiles, guns, armored vehicles, and so on and so on. This is to maintain — in spite of the will of the Chadian people — a regime at bay. This is the situation which the heads of state of France and Africa made legitimate during their last conference in Kinshasa. This is why we are calling on them to reconsider objectively their position in order to correct this serious mistake. We are asking for the immediate withdrawal of French troops and entrust the settlement of the Chadian problem to the OAU in conformity with the principle of Africa for Africans.

GHANA

Information Secretary Receives GDR Envoy

AB122040 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] The secretary for information, Miss Joyve Aryee, has said that all sovereign states must have relations with countries that believe in mutual benefit. She is of the view that aid to the Third World countries should be based on the policy of mutual assistance, noninterference, and equal benefit.

Miss Aryee was speaking to the GDR ambassador in Accra, Mr Herbert Denzler, who paid a courtesy call on her in her office today. She noted that GDR has gone a long way in regrouping its economy after the devastation of the Second World War. This shows that nothing is impossible for a determined people. The information secretary said agriculture in the GDR is highly developed and Ghana would like to emulate that country in areas of cooperative farming. On disarmament, Miss Aryee said the last two world wars started on German soil, and at present that area of Europe is a real volcano. She said the world should strive constantly to maintain peace in that area to prevent a repetition of its history.

Ambassador Denzler said relations between Ghana and the GDR have been good over the years and have been based on mutual benefit and nonexploitation. He said developing nations are the cornerstone of his country's foreign policy, adding that the GDR sends experts to Africa to train their trade partners on the use of imported GDR equipment. Mr Denzler said Ghana-GDR joint commission hopes to expand areas of cooperation between the two countries.

LIBERIA

Doe Issues 'Warning Against Socialism'

AB122045 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] The head of state, Commander in Chief Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, today issued a warning to people of socialist tendencies in the country. Addressing thousands of local citizens in Bendaja, Dr Doe said Liberia would never become a breeding ground for socialism. He also warned parents, teachers, and students against the evils of a socialist form of government. He said all those with the idea of socialism would not live to tell the story. This is the second same warning against socialism in a week. He said the People's Redemption Council [PRC] appreciated the support by students and teachers, but it would never allow anyone to bring misery to Liberians by bringing socialism to the country.

Dr Doe told citizens that the PRC Government appreciates the spirit of nationalism shown by the people of Lofa County. He said, as an encouragement, the council has decided that whatever amount the county collects for self-help development, government will contribute an equal share in the next fiscal budget. Dr Doe requested for the names of all local citizens who refused to make their contributions toward the Lofa County development fund drive.

Doe Pledges To Consult With Elders

AB122050 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] The head of state declares that the People's Redemption Council [PRC] Government will always consult elders before making decisions. Commander in Chief Doe said the government has always shown willingness to listen to the people in finding solutions to the many problems facing our country. He regretted that the people had not been consulted before the PRC announced 1985 as the date for a return to civilian rule as was done in the case of former Vice President Thomas Weh Seyn, who plotted to overthrow the government. He was subsequently executed.

Dr Doe, who was addressing chiefs, elders, and citizens at the development meeting in Lofa County, promised that when the constitution advisory assembly completes its work, all chiefs and elders will be consulted for their recommendations. The head of state warned against ritual killings. He said some people were doing so to gain political office. The Liberian leader also said that the PRC Government would not hesitate to mete out punitive measures against those caught in ritualistic killings.

The Executive General of the PRC, Brigadier General Abraham Kollie, asked the citizens to do away with evil and (?singular) achievements and work together with the head of state and the council for the development of Liberia. Several chiefs and elders asked the head of state and the PRC to reflect on government activities over the past 3 years and consider whether rushing to the barracks was a solution for the people to the problems facing the state.

NIGERIA

Shagari Calls Libyan Plan 'Nothing New'

AB121835 Paris AFP in English 1451 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Lagos, Oct 12 (AFP) — Nigerian President Shehu Shagari has responded to Libyan proposals to resolve the situation in Chad as "nothing new," according to an official statement issued here today after a visit by Libyan Foreign Minister 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi. The proposals included "separation" of the forces in conflict, an observer team from Organisation of African Unity (OAU) member countries to be sent to Chad, the setting up of an interim government, negotiations between all factions concerned, and elections to choose a government, the statement said. The presidential statement said Mr Shagari considered Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's proposals "as nothing new," as they had once been proposed by Nigeria to the OAU and also to ex-President Goukouni Oueddei when he was Chadian head of state. It also said Nigeria was prepared to help Chad, "but not at any price."

Mr al-'Ubaydi arrived in Lagos on Monday after a visit to Paris last week in connection with the situation in Chad, and today

returned to Paris. Libya has been giving support to Mr Goukouni's forces in northern Chad, while France has troops there backing Mr Goukouni's successor, President Hissein Habre.

The presidential statement added that Mr Shagari strongly felt that only by working together could the various warring factions in Chad restore peace to the country, and that efforts to bring the factions together would be those of Africa's leaders. The statement said that only if the OAU financed the proposed observer team would Nigeria be prepared to take part in it. The statement quoted Mr al-'Ubaydi as saying Libya was prepared to contribute financially for such observers. It added that the envoy had denied Libyan involvement in the recent fighting in Chad, and had called for the withdrawal of all foreign troops there "before any peaceful negotiations could take place." Mr Shagari's talks here on Chad with Mr al-'Ubaydi this week follow talks on the same matter here less than two weeks ago between the Nigerian president and the French presidential adviser for African affairs, Jean-Christophe Mitterrand.

Nigeria has been closely involved in recent years in attempts to solve Chad's chronic crisis. It notably contributed to an OAU peacekeeping force sent to the country early in 1982, while Mr Goukouni was in power and Mr Habre's then rebel forces were moving towards Ndjamena. The OAU has never reimbursed Nigeria for the cost of that venture.

More on Peace Proposals
LD122359 Paris International Service in French 2115 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] The Libyan foreign affairs minister, 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi is in Paris to talk about the Chad issue and seems to be willing to examine with France a Libyan settlement plan for Chad. We have just heard details of this plan from the Nigerian president. It should not be forgotten that 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi has come from Lagos. President Shehu Shagari did not react very positively to the Libyan peace proposals. Daniele Lefevre, on the other hand, they did not bring anything new?

[Begin Lefevre recording] To kill two birds with one stone — this expression aptly characterizes the statements by the Nigerian head of state after his meeting with the Libyan foreign affairs minister. Indeed as well as saying that the Libyan proposals do not bring anything new, President Shagari gave details on the way Lagos sees the evolution of the Chadian conflict. [Word indistinct] essential, if Nigeria gets involved in the Chadian affair it will not do so personally but only if the OAU entrusts it with a mission.

This is the first time that the Lagos authorities have been as clear as this on the matter. Nothing surprising after all, since Mr Shagari was only sworn in as president for the second time at the beginning of this month. The most important event, however, is the emergence of this Libyan plan. When RFI [Radio France International] met the Libyan ambassador to France last weekend, Mr Hafiana welcomed the fact that in Vittel all the participants in the African summit had agreed to settle the Chadian affair through negotiation, but they had not gone any further.

The Libyan plan, as presented by the Nigerian president, provides for four points:

— The separation of the forces present, without mentioning them;

— The sending of a group of observers composed only of OAU members;

— The setting up of an interim government, followed by negotiations between all factions;

— Lastly, general elections aimed at enabling the Chadians to choose the type of government they wish. Another detail: Libya says it is willing to finance a part of the observation force.

These points have already been submitted by Nigeria, if one is to believe President Shagari, to the two parties present. One detail though: Such a plan is more likely to be accepted by Hissein Habre if it is presented by Lagos than if it stems from Tripoli. The opposite is also true for Goukouni Oueddei.

Expansion of Warri, Kaduna Refineries Announced
AB130847 Lagos NAN in English 0825 GMT 13 Oct 83

[Text] Lagos, Oct 12 (NAN) — An Italian firm has been awarded a 30 million naira contract for the expansion of the Warri refinery, sources close to the NNPC [Nigerian National Petroleum Company] said in Lagos today. The contract covers the expansion and modification of the refinery to increase its capacity by 25 percent to about 125,000 barrels per day. It is expected to be completed by 1985. The sources explained that the firm, Snamprogetti, a member of the Italian ENI group, won the contract because it built the original refinery. A similar expansion programm known as de-bottlenecking is also going on in the Kaduna refinery and is being executed by the Japanese firm, Chiyoda. The program, which is provided for in the fourth national development plan (1981-85), will increase domestic refining capacity by 35,000 barrels per day. The country's three refineries have a capacity of 260,000 barrels per day but domestic consumption in 1983 is estimated at 8.45 million metric tonnes.

UPPER VOLTA

11 Political Figures Under House Arrest
AB120830 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 12 Oct 83

[State security measures taken by National Council of the Revolution [CNR] Chairman Captain Thomas Sankara following the extraordinary Cabinet meeting at Po — read by Ernest Ouedraogo, secretary of state of the interior and security]

[Text] The chairman of the CNR, and head of state, considering the 4 August 1983 proclamation, considering ordinance No 83/001 CNR of 4 August 1983 on the creation of the CNR, considering Decree No 83/024 CNR-PRES of 24 August 1983 on the formation of the government, decrees:

Article 1 — The following persons have been assigned to their residences in the following villages cited after their names: Remy Tongo at Bourgou, Bouroumtinga Province; Joseph Conombo at Fangisiri, Bouroumtinga Province; Henri Bissou at Koudougou, Gouroukouna Province; (Joseph Tarboyi) at Kaya, Fenemetinga Province; Joseph Ki-Zerbo at Toma, Soirou Province; Bamba Konate at Banfora, Comoe Province; Ani Lankouande at Fada Ngourma, Gourma Province; Joseph Ouedraogo at Tanda, Bouroumtinga Province; Gerard Ango Ouedraogo at Ouahirila, Ouatinga Province; Mahamoudou Ouedraogo at Sema, Pasore Province; (Ouelse Pita Sale) at Gaoua, Kourou Province; Maurice Yameogo at Koudougou, Gouroukouna Province; Saye Zerbo at Tougan, Sourou Province.

Article 2: The persons mentioned in Article 1 cannot leave their residences unless they obtain written permission from the competent head of the district administration and are under surveillance.

Article 3: They cannot receive any visitors between 1800 and 0600. Visits from foreigners should be authorized beforehand by the head of the district administration.

Article 4: Any breach of these measures will receive a revolutionary punishment.

Article 5: The minister of interior and security, the minister of national defense and veterans affairs, and the national secretary general of the Defense Committees of the Revolution are entrusted with the execution of the present decree which comes into force on the day it is signed.

Ouagadougou, 11 October, 1983. Capt Thomas Sankara

Cabinet Decides To Dissolve Republican Guard

AB122115 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Under the chairmanship of Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution and head of state, the Cabinet meeting of today, 12 October, was held from 0900 to 1500. It examined and adopted three reports. It heard oral communications and reports of missions, and before closing the meeting, the council made some appointments and also took some measures of dismissal as well as retirement of some civil servants. The council decided to dissolve the Republican Guard. Some of its members will form the new National Guard of the Revolution while others will go to the National Police Force.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Greets GDR's Honecker on National Day

AU121853 East Berlin Neues Deutschland in German 11 Oct 83 p 6

[Telegram from Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, to Erich Honecker, SED Central Committee general secretary and GDR State Council chairman, on GDR national day]

[Text] To Comrade Erich Honecker, SED Central Committee general secretary and chairman of the GDR State Council.

Dear Comrade:

On behalf of the Angolan people, the Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party, the government of the People's Republic of Angola, and on my own behalf I convey to you, the people, the SED Central Committee, and the Government of the GDR most cordial congratulations on the 34th anniversary of your state.

I congratulate you on the successes which the GDR people, thanks to the farsighted leadership of their avant-garde party, have achieved in various fields of life. From the ruins and the debris of the cities destroyed by fascist World War II they have created a socialist, developed, flourishing, and peaceful country.

On this day of great ceremonies I am very satisfied to once again demonstrate our will to develop and deepen the ties of friendship and cooperate which link our peoples, parties, and governments and assure you of the militant solidarity of the Angolan people with the GDR people in their struggle against imperialism and for defending the achievements that have been made, for the welfare of the entire people, peace, and progress of mankind.

Allow me, Comrade Erich Honecker, to once again express wishes for successes and my fraternal respect.

[Signed] Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola.

Receives Honecker Message

MB121938 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] Yesterday Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos received a personal message from GDR Council of State Chairman Erich Honecker. The message was handed to the Angolan head of state by the ambassador of that socialist country accredited to Angola, Johannes Schulz, during an audience at the Futungo de Belas. The GDR diplomat said on the occasion that the message dealt with the relations of friendship and fraternity between the peoples of Angola and the GDR, the MPLA-Labor Party and SED, and the two countries' governments.

Hungarian Party Delegation Arrives on Visit

MB121812 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] A delegation from the Hungarian Socialist Workers's Party [MSZMP] led by Imre Katona, the secretary of the Presidential Council of the People's Republic of Hungary, arrived in our country yesterday at the invitation of the Department for External Relations of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee. Speaking to our reporting team at the 4 February International Airport, Imre Katona said that he was familiar with the situation in Angola through the material he has been receiving, but this could not substitute for the personal contacts he will have with our country's authorities. He also said that he intends to discuss with our authorities issues related to liberation movements in southern Africa, the situation in Chad, and issues related to Angolans' daily life. On the views of the MSZMP on the war situations in Angola, Chad, and Namibia, the Hungarian official said:

[Begin recording] Our party has firm views on these major international issues. Regarding the Namibian issue, our party has always expressed solidarity with the struggle of the Namibian people for their independence. Our party does not agree with the presence of imperialist troops in Chad, and we are of the view that the situation there must be resolved by the Chadians themselves. Regarding the presence of the Cuban troops in the People's Republic of Angola, we are of the view that this is an internal issue of Angola, and it is only the Angolans who must decide whether or not the Cuban troops should be in Angola. [end recording]

This was the statement made to our reporting team by the head of the Hungarian delegation and secretary of the Presidential Council of Hungary, who arrived in our country last evening at the invitation of the Department for External Relations of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee. In conclusion, the secretary of the Presidential Council of Hungary expressed the desire to reach an agreement with Angolan authorities to enable the development of party relations between the two countries. On arrival, the Hungarian delegation was received by Comrade Afonso van Dunem Mbinda, the Central Committee secretary for external relations.

Ambassador in Paris Holds Press Conference

MB121012 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] The Angolan Government considers as mercenaries the members of the Doctors Without Borders organization who might be made prisoners in its territory. This was said in Paris yesterday by the Angolan ambassador to France, Luis de Almeida. During a press conference, Comrade Luis de Almeida added that Angola would not be held responsible for the members of that organization found working in its territory. He described their group as being a new kind of mercenary where the uniform is replaced by the gown.

On the Western invitation made to traitor Jonas Savimbi by four European parliamentarians to speak before the European Parlia-

ment in Strasbourg 14-18 November 1983, the Angolan diplomat added that it constituted a serious provocation and sabotages Angolan efforts for close links with the European Economic Community at a time when consultations for the renewal of the Lome Convention, where Angola is taking part as an observer, have begun. On UNITA statements on an alleged offensive against Luanda and the country's western provinces, Comrade Luis de Almeida pointed out that it was nothing but mere propaganda.

The Angolan ambassador to France once again confirmed the criminal actions carried out by the racist South African regime by presenting to the press a book which reviews the activities of the racists in the People's Republic of Angola from 1975-1982. The book contains a number of statements made by the MPLA-Labor Party and international organizations on the situation in southern Africa and on the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola, as well as pictures which portray the acts of murder carried out by the racists inside our country. Speaking about Angola's relations with the (?United States), Comrade Luis de Almeida pointed out that they were almost nonexistent and expressed the interest of the Angolan Government to continue with the talks and combined efforts for the solution of problems in southern Africa.

FAPLA Warns Western Journalists on Planned Trip

MB121530 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 12 Oct 83

[ANGOP dispatch: "New South African Provocations"]

[Text] South Africa and the UNITA gangsters are trying to organize a visit by foreign journalists to areas under occupation of the racist army inside the People's Republic of Angola before 11 November 1983. This has been revealed to ANGOP by reliable sources. The visit is planned to include journalists from *The Times*, *The Sunday Times*, *The Daily Telegraph*, and BBC (?TV); Americans of *The Washington Post* and *The New York Times*; as well as German, Portuguese, Italian, and South African freelance journalists. The same sources pointed out that this violation of Angolan frontiers would be carried out by air from a Namibian airport, and the stay of the group in Angola would be made as brief as possible for fear of a reaction by the Angolan Armed Forces.

The sources added that during the visit the possibility is not excluded that special South African commandos integrated with the puppet gangsters might carry out a spectacular action for propaganda purposes and to lessen the impact of the vigorous response our fighters of the Peoples Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] have been giving to the enemy.

Angolan Army sources contacted by ANGOP on this issue have repeated the same warning given recently to a group of U.S. legislators who apparently intended to violate Angolan borders. According to the warning, FAPLA would not be held responsible for what might happen to them personally. The same sources also called the attention of international public opinion to this new instance of South Africa's attempts at different levels against the sovereignty of independent African countries.

BOTSWANA

Statement Issued on Zimbabwe Border Incidents

MB121440 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1125 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] The office of the president has released a statement clarifying issues surrounding alleged incidents at the Botswana-Zimbabwe border. The statement says there are no Zimbabwean troops in northern Botswana, and the president's tour of the (Nkange) constituency has not resulted from the incident at (Botaleng). Regarding the (Botaleng) incident, the statement says the villagers report that on Sunday, 2 October at about 1730 three helicopters appeared at the village from Zimbabwe's side of the border. The statement says one of the helicopters landed while the other circled the village. Eight black soldiers and one white alighted from the helicopter and started searching the houses of the village and asking for dissidents. The statement says headman Buthale was assaulted, and school teachers were harassed but not assaulted. The incident was taken up with the Zimbabwe authorities at regional military and police commander level the very next day at a meeting in Plumtree. Both sides agreed to investigate the incident further and agreed to strengthen communications to prevent the recurrence of such incidents.

LESOTHO

Jonathan Speaks on Opposition, Diplomatic Ties

MB071033 Maseru Domstic Service in English 0500 GMT 7 Oct 83

[Text] The prime minister, The Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, was yesterday received to a rousing welcome by the Mpharane constituency in Mohale's Hoek, where he successfully stood as the Basotho National Party [BNP] candidate in 1965 and in the abortive 1970 elections which had been rigged by the Basotho Congress Party [BCP] anarchists. Receiving the prime minister at a rally held at (Liphateng), the secretary of the constituency committee read out a resolution reaffirming the constituency's continued support to the prime minister. The resolution asked him to stand again as candidate in the coming elections and condemned the attempts by agents of Lesotho's enemies to depict Dr Jonathan as a communist. In the resolution, the people of Mpharane also took the opportunity to congratulate the prime minister for the honorary doctorate of education which he received from the National University of Lesotho last Saturday.

Addressing the large gathering at the (Liphateng) rally, the prime minister thanked the Mpharane constituency for the consistent support which they have always given to him. Dr Jonathan also urged the people of Mpharane to relate to each other with love, pointing out that love was the basis for peace. He emphasized that there could be no peace where [there] was no love, and he said that it was love which had prompted him in the past to invite opposition leaders like Mr (G.P. Ramoreboli) and Mr C.D. Mofeli into a BNP cabinet.

The prime minister added that he at the time also invited Mr Mokhehle, who refused the invitation before going into self-imposed exile and who was now living in South Africa as a mere tool. He further stressed that whereas some people had even branded him as an agent of South Africa, he had remained loyal to Lesotho and it was Mokhehle who had sold out to South Africa. He said that Mokhehle's press statements as a South African tool had been sufficiently proved recently when the South African Government refused to grant a delegation of Lesotho churches permission to see him in South Africa where he is living.

Referring to the present acts of violence and murder, Dr Jonathan reminded the people of Mpharane that violence came into Lesotho's political scene through the BCP of Mr Mokhehle, and he pointed to the attempts to burn down the Roman Catholic cathedral in Maseru in the sixties. Father (Mannard) of the Catholic Church had also been murdered after the BCP had accused him of supporting the BNP.

On the establishment of diplomatic relations between Lesotho and the socialist countries, Dr Jonathan said that he was following the footsteps of the founder of the nation, King Moshoeshoe II, who had diversified Lesotho's relations by establishing contact with England when he was being threatened by the Boers. He said that Western countries are pro-South Africa biased as a result of their investments in that country, and it had been necessary to invite other countries to establish a diplomatic presence in Lesotho in view of the threats which we are facing today.

Referring to the present drought, the prime minister told the rally that areas such as Mafeteng and Tuang were going to be given priority in the drilling for water as they were the driest and hardest hit in the whole country. He added that with assistance from friendly countries, more food aid was expected in order to alleviate the present hunger which threatened to be the most serious in recent memory.

The prime minister was accompanied to the (Liphateng) rally by the minister of foreign afafirs, The Honorable E.R. Sekhonyana.

Jonathan Congratulated by Cuban, Other Leaders

MB071249 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 7 Oct 83

[Text] The Cuban leader, Dr Fidel Castro, has joined many world leaders who have in the past few days been sending messages of congratulations to Lesotho on the occasion of the 17th independence anniversary. In a message sent to the prime minister, Dr Leabua Jonathan, the Cuban prime minister says that the celebration of this occasion takes place at the time when imperialists and racist forces led by the United States of America and South Africa are pressurizing Lesotho and the frontline states. Dr Castro adds that Cuba and its people reaffirm their solidarity with Lesotho and express to the Kingdom and people of Lesotho best wishes for the strengthening of relations between Cuba and Lesotho. Other messages today were received from Mr Mohamed Mzali, prime minister of Tunisia, and the president of Benin, His Excellency Mathieu Kerekou.

SOUTH AFRICA

Botha Says Lesotho Premier Interfering in Reforms

MB090924 Johannesburg Sunday Times in English 9 Oct 83 pp 1,2

[By Brian Pottinger]

[Excerpts] The future of South Africa's black citizens has erupted on the centre stage of the referendum campaign. Government spokesmen are working hard to cool passions with promises of action after polling day on the question of black political rights. The door, they insist, is not closed on black advancement. The issue has been further confused by a flaming new row between South Africa and Lesotho.

Lesotho Prime Minister, Chief Leabua Jonathan has intervened in the referendum campaign by sending a telegram to KwaZulu's Chief Gatsha Buthelezi in which he warns that the new constitution could lead to a "racial holocaust." The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, last night branded the Jonathan telegram as "intimidation" and "interference in South Africa's domestic affairs." The telegram adds urgency to a growing campaign by Government speakers to defuse an issue which is beginning to dominate the referendum debate.

— In Vryburg this week the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, went out of his way to stress that there would be continued negotiation with black leaders after November 2 to find "new and imaginative forms" of constitutional justice and equity for all South Africans. While emphatically ruling out majority rule, he said the referendum by no means signalled the end of "honest endeavours" to solve problems between the government and blacks. Mr Pik Botha claimed the development amounted to yet another form of intimidation.

The telegram is a response to an earlier one from Chief Buthelezi and claims that South Africa would miss another chance for peaceful change if it went ahead with the proposed constitution. "One would have hoped that any proposal for a new constitution would make an attempt to avert a racial holocaust in South Africa by creating an opportunity to induce meaningful change while time still permits," says the telegram. "Sadly, the present constitutional proposals by the South African Government are, because of their exclusion of the black majority, only going to enhance racial conflict."

The telegram welcomes the stand by the Roman Catholic, Anglican and Methodist churches against the constitution and applauds Chief Buthelezi for his vehement rejection of the plan. "We believe that this is the time for all South African democrats, both within South Africa and abroad, to join forces in order to expedite their inevitable victory and the advent of a free, just and democratic South Africa."

The telegram — released by Chief Buthelezi's office this week — led to an immediate response from Mr Botha. He branded the telegram as interference in South Africa's internal affairs and said it was an obvious attempt by Chief Buthelezi to muster more

support for his stand. "He has threatened and intimidated the Coloureds and Indians and is doing the same to others now."

Mr Botha said neither Chief Jonathan nor Chief Buthelezi tolerated dissidence and that they ran one-party states. "I am a little bit tired of those who pontificate about the democracy for others when they themselves operate from a position of authorization rule. "I have just one question for Prime Minsiter Jonathan: On what basis does he govern his people? The night he lost the election he seized power and has not since dared to ask his people if they want him.

Buthelezi on Referendum

MB080711 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 8 Oct 83

[Text] The aims and objectives of both the ANC and Inkatha hold no threats to whites. That is according to Inkatha leader Gatsha Buthelezi. Speaking at a joint referendum meeting with the Progressive Federal Party in Pietermaritzburg last night, Buthelezi added that black South Africans will become committed to, as he put it, dismantling the state if a yes vote is returned in next month's constitutional referendum.

UDF National Secretariat Meets Despite Ban

MB101230 Johannesburg Rand Daily Mail in English 10 Oct 83 p 1

[By Patrick Laurence]

[Text] The national secretariate of the United Democratic Front met as scheduled yesterday in spite of the issuing of a banning order under the Internal Security Act against the meeting at its original venue. On Friday the scheduled meeting of the 10-person secretariate at Khoso House in Johannesburg was prohibited by the Acting Chief Magistrate of Johannesburg on the grounds that it would seriously endanger the public peace. The order further forbade the UDF national secretarirate from holding the meeting anywhere in Johannesburg. A second and separate order forbade the holding of any UDF meeting at the weekend in Randburg.

Yesterday, however, the UDF national secretariate held its meeting at a venue "outside the borders of Johannesburg but not in Randburg," a spokesman for the UDF said. Some of the national secretariate members came from towns as far afield as Cape Town, Durban and Port Elizabeth for the planned meeting at Khoso House. One of the issues almost certainly considered by the national secretairate is the spate of banning orders issued against rallies planned recently by the UDF.

Meeting forbidden in the past month include the banning last week of the Transvaal Indian Congress protest meeting just outside Pretoria against the proposed new constitution, the banning about three weeks ago of a rally to launch an East London branch of the UDF, and the banning of a meeting in Lenasia to commemorate the death of the former TIC leader, Dr Yusuf Dadoo.

ANC's Tambo Blames Reagan for RSA Pressure

LD112133 Algiers APS in English 1500 GMT 11 Oct 83

[Text] Algiers, Oct 11 (APS) — "The international community was until now incredibly tolerant with the regime of South Africa and too conciliating before the Reagan administration," Mr. Oliver Tambo, A.N.C. (African National Congress) president declared Monday in Algiers during an interview to the Algerian news agency (A.P.S.).

The A.N.C. president who evoked the evolution of the struggle against Pretoria's regime, indicated that this struggle had reached a critical phase for two major reasons.

The first of these reason, according to Mr. Tambo, lies in the fact that the South African regime backed by the Reagan administration, increases its pressures on the bordering African independent states (frontline countries). The aim of these pressures is to put an end to the support of these countries to the national liberation struggle in South Africa.

The second reason rests in Pretoria's present manoeuvres aiming at destabilizing the economies of these very countries so as to compel them to be more and more economically dependent on South Africa. This destabilization aims also, Mr. Tambo added, at the failure of the SADCC (Southern Africa Development and Coordination Conference) whose objective is to reduce the African countries dependence on Pretoria.

The A.N.C. president indicated that Pretoria was launching a wide offensive so as to impose again the colonial condition thanks to which South Africa would be the political, military and economic power controlling the course of events. In order to reach its objective, Mr. Tambo added, the racist regime concentrates its offensive mainly, and as a first step, on two countries: Lesotho and Angola. However, the patriotic forces in South Africa constituted a united and a powerful front whose objective is to put an end to the very regime.

Evoking the O.A.U. 19th summit resolution on the South African question, Mr. Oliver Tambo indicated that this resolution was "very clear and very positive" adding that the summit was "a great success of the African wisdom." The A.N.C. president nevertheless expressed concern that the spirit which prevailed during the works of Addis Ababa was short lived. "Since this summit," Mr. Tambo pointed out, "Western Sahara and Chad problems re-appeared and we are far from solutions proposed by the O.A.U. We think that when these problems are solved, Africa will be able to devote itself to the struggle against the apartheid regime," Mr. Tambo added.

Dealing with the Namibian question, Mr. Tambo pointed out that every regime poses other inacceptable conditions. [as received] He evoked in this context the problem of the link between Namibia's independence and the presence of Cuban troops in Angola. He added that Pretoria also demands the UNITA participation in the Angolan Government and the withdrawal of A.N.C. militants from southern Africa as a prerequisite to Namibia's independence. These conditions, he estimated, show the arrogance of Pretoria's regime.

SWAZILAND

Sozisa, Bhekimpi Say Situation Under Control

MB122001 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 12 Oct 83

[Text] The authorized person, Prince Sozisa, and the prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi, have assured the outgoing ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Swaziland, Mr Jo van der Volk, that the political disturbances that were threatening to destabilize the peace of the country have been brought under control. Prince Sozisa and Prince Bhekimpi pronounced these words this morning when Mr van der Valk paid them a courtesy call at Enkhanini and the Government House, respectively, to bid them farewell after the completion of his mission as Netherland's ambassador to the Kingdom of Swaziland.

Prince Sozisa said all the peace and stability that the late King Sobhuza II labored for for the Swazi people for many years will be preserved. He said Swaziland, like any other country in the world, is bound to experience such disturbances, but luckily the situation is under control. The prime minister, through the outgoing envoy, asked the people of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to pray with the Swazi nation and the whole world for the preservation of peace, as we catergorically condemn the barbaric killings of the Korean airline passengers, members of the Korean Cabinet, and officials in Burma recently. Mr van der Valk was also asked to extend the sincere gratitude of her majesty's government and the entire Swazi nation for the various forms of technical assistance his government was rendering to Swaziland.

Mr van der Valk said he was privileged to have served as a link between the two kingdoms as an ambassador. He said he would have loved to contribute more to the development of the existing relationship between our countries, adding that such friendship needs a careful maintenance for good progress. He expressed the hope that his successor will also work toward strengthening and promoting good understanding between the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Kingdom of Swaziland. Earlier, Mr van der Valk called on the minister for foreign affairs, Mr Richard Velaphi Dlamini.

Parliament Summoned To Assemble 19 October

MB121856 Mbabane Domestic Service in siSwati 1715 GMT 12 Oct 83

["Important announcement"]

[Text] The president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Assembly, in concurrence with the right honorable prime minister are requesting all the honorable members of both houses of Parliament to assemble in Parliament on Wednesday, 19 October 1983, at 1430. This important announcement has been signed by the clerk to the Parliament, Mr N L. Dlamini.

ZAMBIA

Hungarian Party Delegation Visits Country

MB110940 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 10 Oct 83

[Text] Member of the Central Committee Bob Litana, said today that Zambia and Hungary have cooperated in various fields very well. Mr Litana said this when a three-man Hungarian delegation led by member of the Central Committee of the Socialist Worker's Party and secretary to the Presidential Council, Imre Katona, called on him at his office. He said the two countries have the same policies aimed at improving the quality of life for man. Mr Litana said that Zambia had chosen the philosophy of humanism as a guiding principle in whatever the party and government was doing in the development of the country. In reply, Mr Katoma pledged total support toward the liberation of Namibia, adding that his country condemned the racialist policies of South Africa.

Meets Party Leader

MB111926 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 10 Oct 83

[Text] The party secretary general, Humphrey Mulemba, today hailed the identical approach Zambia and Hungary share in international issues. Mr Mulemba, who was speaking when a three-man Hungarian delegation currently in the country called on him at his office, said Zambia and Hungary share the same views on the Namibian issue and stressed that the linkage of the presence of Cuban troops to the independence of Namibia was out of the question. He reiterated Zambia's support for SWAPO, saying the independence of Namibia has nothing to do with Angola, but South Africa. Mr Mulemba said that Zambia condemned South Africa and her supporters on the Namibian issue. In reply, the leader of the delegation, Imre Katona, thanked Zambians for the warm welcome accorded him and his delegation and applauded the good relations that exist between Zambia and Hungary.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe on Ties With U.S., UN Vote on KAL Plane

MB071720 Harare The Herald in English 29 Sep 83 p 1

[Text] Relations between Zimbabwe and the United States are still "very good" despite different postures on a number of international issues including the Namibian independence question, Cde Mugabe said. Replying to questions in the Assembly, Cde Mugabe said the fact that Zimbabwe and America held differing views on some international issues did not necessarily make them enemies. The Prime Minister had been asked to brief the House on the areas of agreement and disagreement that he encountered during his recent tour of Ireland, America and Canada by Mr Dennis Davaris, (Ind., Kopje).

In Canada, he said there had been no areas of disagreement. The Canadian Prime Minister, Mr Pierre Trudeau, advocated for a better deal for the South. The Prime Minister also said he had found tremendous interest among investors in Zimbabwe, "inspite of what those who do not like us do or say."

In the Republic of Ireland, he said, there was much interest in investing in Zimbabwe. Cde Mugabe's delegation had held discussions with some of the bussinessmen, "and some said they would be coming here to look at the situation for themselves while others had already been here and were already examining investment opportunities here". He said he was confident about future foreign investment for Zimbabwe and understood that investors were "calculating people who will want to be assured of profits and the ability to remit their profits."

On why Zimbabwe abstained in the Security Council vote condemning the shooting down of a Korean airliner, Cde Mugabe said Zimbabwe sits on the council as a temporary member to represent the region and is not completely independent in deciding how it votes on major issues. The consensus in the region seemed to be that it should not support the resolution. Zimbabwe had been voted on to the council by other countries in the region and had a duty to represent their views on it.

However, even if Zimbabwe had been able to make a totally independent decision on how to vote it might still have abstained from voting in favour of the resolution because the United States had raised the issue from condemning the "regrettable act" to the level of super-power rivalry. Once an issue assumed the proportions of rivalry between the United States and the Soviet Union, non-aligned countries would tend to stand aloof since they could not be seen to be taking sides.

Acting Foreign Minister Hails GDR Friendship
MB080940 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 8 Oct 83

[Text] The acting minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Simbarashe Mubengegwe, says Zimbabwe will continue to work with the progressive world to foster peace, justice, and equality. Speaking at the ceremony to mark the 34th national day of the GDR, Mubengegwe said he was pleased with the friendship and cooperation which exists between Zimbabwe and the GDR. He said such peaceful cooperation is the prescription for peace in a world torn by violence, enmity, and injustice. Comrade Mubengegwe praised the GDR for the support it gave Zimbabwean liberation movements during the struggle for independence. He also commended the GDR for its uncompromising stand against South Africa's inhuman system of apartheid and Pretoria's aggression against its peace-loving neighbors.

Speaking on the same occassion, the GDR ambassador to Zimbabwe Comrade Hans Georg Schllanker, said his country is committed to a policy of peace and international cooperation. He added that the GDR fully supports the various proposals of the socialist countries in the spheres of arms reduction and disarmament.

'Stern Action' Against Corruption Promised
MB101240 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 10 Oct 83

[Text] The government is to take stern action against anyone found guilty of corruption or misappropriation of public funds. In an interview broadcast on Zimbabwean television last night, the minister of justice, Comrade Simba Mubako, said the government has taken action where there has been evidence of misappropriations of funds in village and community courts. Some village court officials have already been suspended or dismissed, and the ministry will continue to do so as long as misconduct is discovered. Comrade Mubako said the introduction of community and village courts had expanded the activities of the ministry, adding that more staff is needed to monitor and curtail financial malpractices.